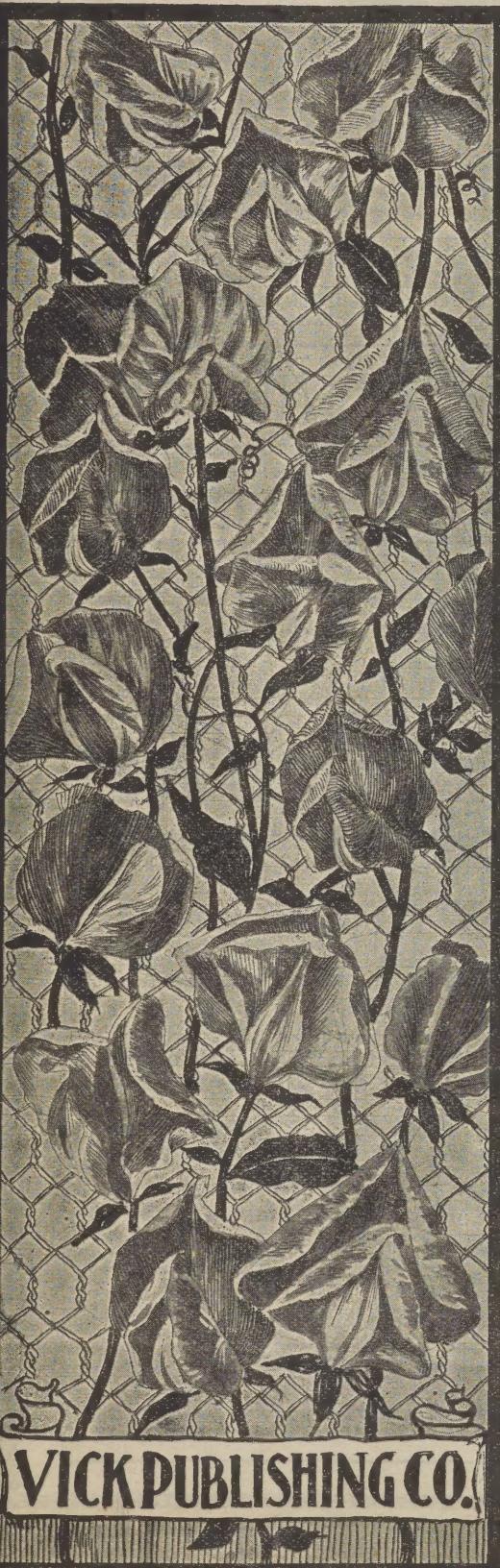


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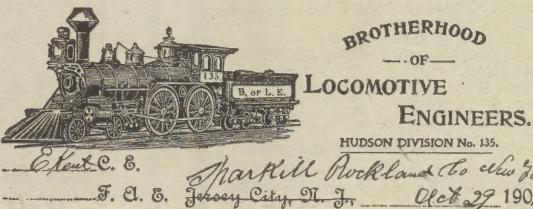


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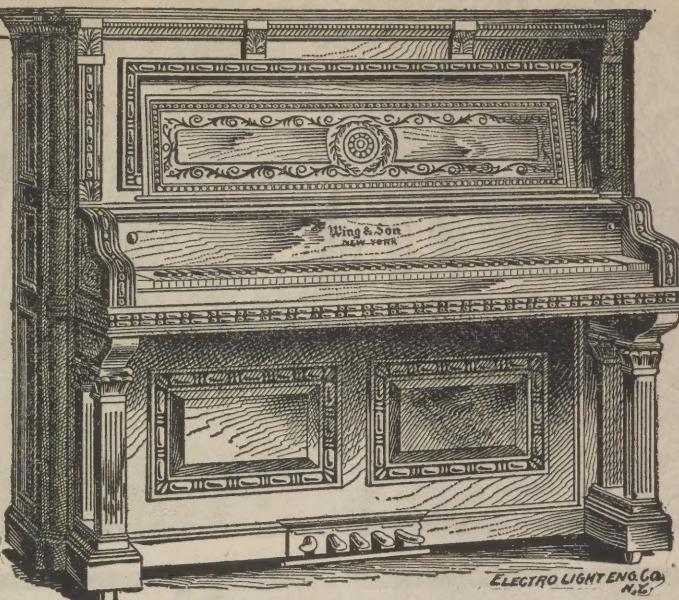
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JAMES VICK
Founder and First Editor

VICK'S FAMILY MAGAZINE

VOL. XXVI

FEBRUARY 1903

N O. 12

Two Fine Annuals

February may seem pretty early to begin to think about the flower garden for the coming summer, but it is not at all too early to begin to plan for it.

However fond we may be of hardy perennials, some annuals we must have. Of course we all have our old-time favorites which are absolutely indispensable, but it is a good plan to try every year some varieties which we have never before cultivated. These often surprise us by their beauty; we congratulate ourselves on being introduced to them, and henceforth they are sure of a place in the garden beds. We do not advocate trying the novelties which the seedsmen picture in such glowing colors in their annual catalogues. Unless one has a large garden and plenty of money to invest in untried varieties, it is always safer, and generally more satisfactory to try some kinds which have stood at least one year's test.

One fine annual which has been thoroughly tested for a number of years and proved very satisfactory is the Gaillardia. (See illustration page three.) Though it is one of the showiest of flowers and sure to attract the attention and gain the admiration of all who see it for the first time, it is seldom found in gardens, undoubtedly because it is so little known. It is a native of our Southern states and commonly called the Blanket Flower. Since the florists have taken it in hand it has been greatly improved, and there are now numerous named varieties. The flowers are large, often measuring three and a half inches in diameter, and gracefully poised on long stems, which makes them very fine for cutting. The colors are gorgeous—crimson, scarlet, orange and yellow blending to make a brilliant show.

The Gaillardia is a strong grower and constant bloomer, beginning to flower in June and continuing until severe frosts. The first of November last year some blossoms still lingered. It will grow in almost any soil and position, but responds freely to liberal fertilizing, and endures the hot, dry summer better than most plants. There are both double and single varieties. The former are showy and interesting, but the latter are generally the most admired.

I have spoken of them as annuals, but there are also perennial varieties. Grandiflora is a very fine perennial with most gorgeous single blossoms. The center is a dark reddish brown, while the petals are variously marked with bands of crimson, scarlet, orange, and yellow. For massing or planting in groups in the hardy border the Gaillardia is unsurpassed for decorative effect. If one

does not wish to wait for seeds to grow, plants can be obtained of dealers. If protected in the winter with light litter, clumps will last for several years.

If you have never cultivated the Gaillardia, be sure to try it the coming season. It is truly worthy of high praise and sure to please you.

Another beautiful annual is the Salpiglossis. It is not a new introduction, and when one considers its great beauty it is hard to understand why every one does not cultivate it. The flowers are large, funnel-shaped, and of velvety texture. They are peculiarly rich in coloring, ranging

open ground. Care should be taken in transplanting, so that the plants may receive no check in growth. They attain a height of eighteen inches or two feet, and should be set eight or ten inches apart.

If you have never grown Salpiglossis, you can scarcely fail to be pleased with it, and will congratulate yourself on another valuable acquisition to the flower garden.

Florence Beckwith.

PLANT GROWTH AND EVOLUTION.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

There are people who are afraid of the very word evolution, as if it savored of something uncanny; they feel that it is heretical to talk about evolution, and materialistic to endorse any phase of it.

If there should chance to be any such among the readers of *Vick's Magazine* let them beware of the fields and the forests in the springtime. Let them shun the flower-beds and the vegetable garden, for all these places are literally bursting with evolution!

The buds have unfolded; the leaves have expanded; new life is developing everywhere.

This springtime awakening has gone on, year after year bringing with each season's growth, manifold lessons in evolution.

When we plant seeds we are making preparations for the evolution of the plants from the seeds. The conditions for growth are the stimuli which incites the activity of the potential power in the seed. It is wonderful! It is marvelous; this evolution of this plantlet from the little brown seed. From the bursting of the seed coats and the first peep of the seedling above the soil, until maturity, its life is a sermon on evolution.

Look at the leaves, thorns, branches of the common barberry! Examine the young sprouts of the rose—look at the stipules and observe the evolution of the new leaves. Note the tendrils of the pea-vines; in fact, look at any plant, in whatever stage of growth, and harken to its plea for the truth of evolution.

When evolution is dealt with fairly; when it is rightly understood, it will be found to be as harmless as the law of gravitation. Surely nothing that plants can tell us can be wrong, and we would search long before we could find truer teachers than these plants that we take so much pride and pleasure in, and which furnish us both necessities and luxuries.—Mrs. W. A. Kellerman.

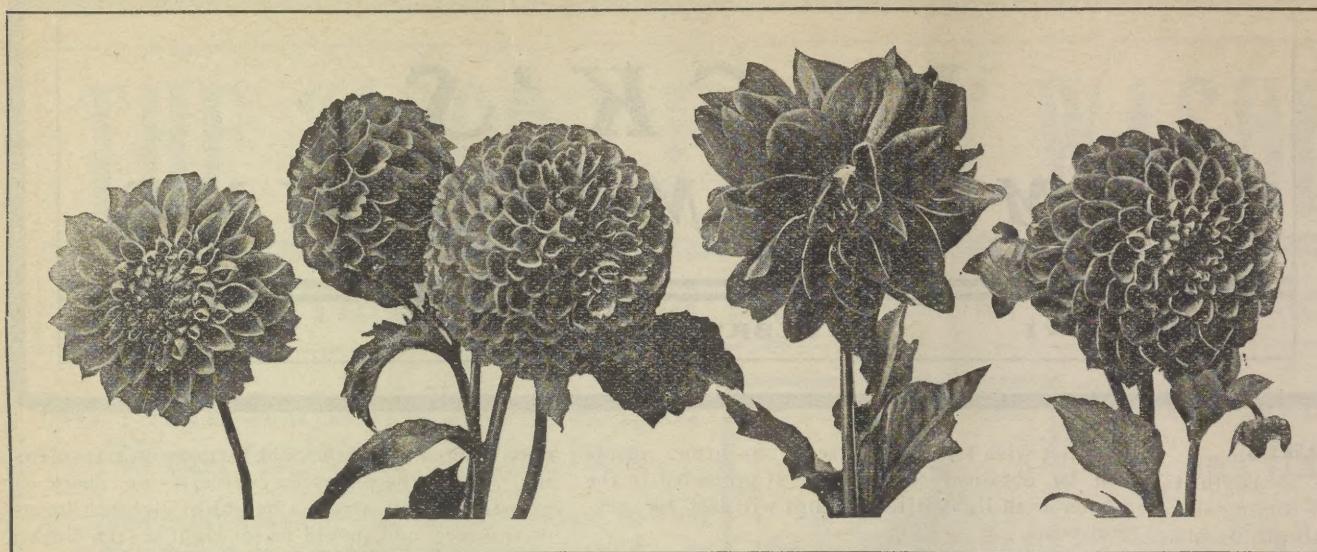
Never a daisy that grows, but a mystery guideth the growing.
Richard Realf



SALPIGLOSSIS.

through various shades of purple, red, and yellow to a delicate, creamy white, marbled, veined and penciled with darker shades. The bright sunlight brings out the tints in such beauty that exclamations of wonder and admiration are always heard from those who see a bed of Salpiglossis for the first time, and at floral exhibitions the flowers attract more attention than any others. No description can do the flower justice, or give the slightest idea of its delicate coloring, beautiful markings and subdued splendor.

The Salpiglossis does best in a light, rich soil. The seeds may be sown indoor about the middle of March, or they can be sown in the open ground in early spring if the soil is light and sandy. It is usually best to start the plants in the house, as they are then ready to set out as soon as the weather is warm enough, and they will begin to bloom earlier than when the seed is sown in the



First Class Dahlias From Seed.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

OME years ago we were attracted by an unusually fine display of Dahlias in a German woman's yard. There were two varieties especially, an immense globular, deep-hued beauty that might have been called King of the Reds, and an equally large, waxy-white flower that deserved the title of Queen of the Snow. We resolved to grow some exactly like them, the coming year. So we stopped, and asked the names of her Dahlias, and where she purchased the roots.

"Ach!" cried she. "I neffer pought 'em. I puys the seedt, raise effrey one of t'ese from the seedt. It's easy enough, you dry it. It grows joost so easy like Larkspur or Zinnia seedt. You start 'em early, and you get 'em joost as soon as from der roots." But the good old dame had to repeat her assurance over and over before we could comprehend that she was telling us the truth, that those grand Dahlias had been raised by this good soul from March-sown seed.

We have tried the experiment for ourselves many times since. The first year we took great pains to procure exceptionally fine seed, carefully saved by reliable seedsmen from choicest prize varieties. And those years our seedling Dahlias were so uncommonly fine, that it is to be feared we put on some airs over our achievement. We had quilled, fancy, show and cactus flowered sorts. Three-fourths of the plants were double-flowered, and only about one-sixth were rogues. These last, the poor or inferior flowered, we pulled up and threw away.

Alas! We became too certain of the quality of seedling Dahlias, and purchased cheap seed, saved from no one knew what kind of flowers. Up popped the little plants, in their old easy way. They grew as fast as ever, but one by one, as they opened, came disappointment. Out of two lots of common, cheap seed, not above three passably good Dahlias were grown, and not one of superior merit. A good share of the lot were single, and most of them rather small-flowered, while the colors that predominated were an unpleasant brick red and bright majenta-purple. After that we had no use for any seed but the choicest. Better one packet of reliable seed at twenty-five a packet, than an ounce of common stuff at five cents for the ounce.

To ensure flowers the first season, Dahlia seed must be sown early. If one is fortunate enough to possess a hot-bed or green-house, February is a good month to sow the seed. If they must be



started in the window, March is the best time to sow them. They can be raised in flats, pans or pots, but most amateurs find cigar-boxes filled with earth the most convenient. Those who are never happy unless they are taking extra pains with their planting, prepare their boxes by putting half an inch of charcoal on the bottom, then over this an inch of light, porous soil, rough and unsifted, then a half inch of sifted soil, upon which the seed is sown, and covered one-fourth inch deep with the same sifted earth. There is really no need of all this exactness. A Dahlia seed is as robust and sure to come up as a sunflower seed. There's all the vigor of a weed about a young Dahlia. The seed box is quickly covered by their strong, sturdy cotyledons. Leaves quickly appear, and if the young plants are transplanted before they become crowded, they fast grow into stocky plants. There is nothing tender, delicate or sickly looking about them.

A moderate temperature is best for seedlings. If they are aired during the warm part of bright, sunny spring days, it adds materially to their vigor. Too hot and close an atmosphere is about the only thing to fear in growing them. Besides if kept hot and close, they not only grow tall and spindling, but when it comes time to set them in the open ground, they cannot stand either the wind or sunshine, but wilt in a forlorn way. They get backsets in this way that takes them weeks to get over, and sometimes they die outright.

So keep Dahlia seedlings in a cool rather than in a hothouse temperature. Air them, as has been said, during warm, spring-like days. As the days grow warmer, leave them out longer and longer, until only on frosty nights they are carried into the house. Such gradually hardened seedlings will not suffer the slightest shock when set in the open ground.

When all danger of frost is over, prepare a good mellow bed, exactly as you would for Dahlias raised from tubers. Transplant them into the open ground, and care for them by keeping weeds down, mulching the ground, if dry

weather threatens, and staking all tall plants as they grow. From the last of June until September, according to locality or size of plants, they will continue to bloom. All inferior flowered plants should be pulled up and thrown away. Some people declare Dahlias cannot be grown and made to bloom in one season from seed. They might as well claim that Aster will not bloom from spring sown seed. Of course the surest way to get just such Dahlias as one most admires, is to purchase the named roots. But anyone who buys choice seeds and gives the young plants good care, will feel well repaid by his seedling Dahlias.

Lora S. LaMance.

FORCING LILACS.

Lilacs for forcing are obtained from Holland. It costs less to import them than to grow them in this country. The plants are pot grown and come with the roots wrapped in excelsior or some similar material. When received they are "heeled in," in a cold house, to be potted and brought forward as needed. Those started early in the season will require six weeks to come into bloom; later they will blossom in four weeks after potting. Marie Legraye (white) and Charles X (purple or dark lilac) are favorites for forcing.

It is stated in the German publication "Gartenwelt," that the etherization of Lilac plants which it is desired to force is being rapidly adopted in the German trade. When etherized the middle of November, Charles X was ready to sell twenty-four days later; when etherized the first of December it was ready for market in eighteen days. In November fifty gm. of ether per hectoliter were used, and in December only forty gm. The cost of etherizing was about two and a half cents per pot. Old plants which had been once etherized and forced, when fertilized but not transplanted, responded readily to etherization again, and by the end of October were in full foliage, an important consideration when plants are sold in pots. The foliage must be kept confined within certain bounds by pruning, as otherwise the flower buds are likely to remain undeveloped.

F. B.

These winter nights against my window pane
Nature with busy pencil draws designs
Of ferns and blossoms and fine sprigs of pine,
Oak leaves and acorns, and fantastic vines—
Which she will make when summer comes again.

T. B. Aldrich.



When the Birds Come North Again.

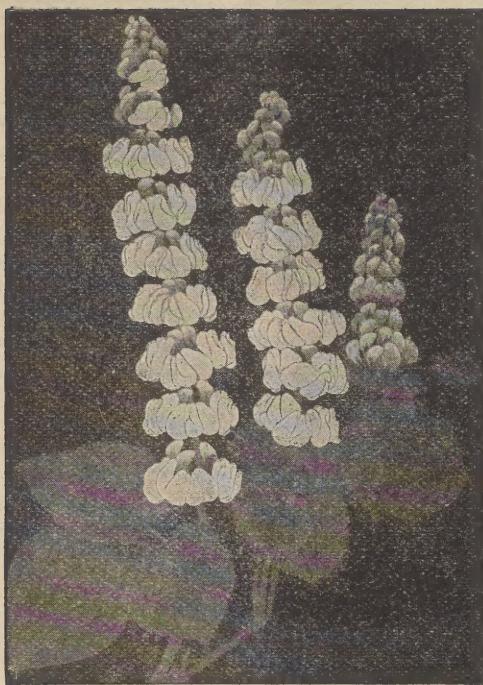
Oh, every year hath its winter
And every year hath its rain—
But a day is always coming
When the birds come North again.

When new leaves swell in the forest,
And grass springs green on the plain.
And the alder's vein turns crimson—
And the birds come North again.

Oh, every heart hath its sorrow,
And every heart hath its pain—
But a day is always coming
When the birds come North again.

'Tis the sweetest thing to remember,
If courage be on the wane,
When the cold, dark days are over—
Why, the birds come North again.

Ella Higginson.



JAPANESE WISTARIA BEAN

THE JAPANESE WISTARIA BEAN.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

Last spring I planted two sorts of this ornamental climber; a red and a white flowered kind, both being new to me. The red or pink variety, as its label read, is in all its parts, so dark a red that it is almost black, the vine and under side of the leaves especially; so it is showy for this reason like a purple beech or the *Prunus Pissardi*.

The flowers are purple and are borne on stiff erect stems so they are not greatly wistaria-like, a number of flowers on each stem expanding in succession. The pods are said to be a part of the effect, but the season here has been very unfavorable for beans and today (Sept. 21) there are only some small pods that will not ripen this year. I think that it would succeed in an ordinary summer. The pods are black as the rest of the plant.

The white sort has light green foliage and pure white flowers, so it is not so very different from some other running beans at first sight; but mingled with the red sort it makes a pleasing variety and the two should be planted together. The white bean is said to be fragrant but I cannot see it. These new plants are easily grown and are good for the million, rapidly covering trellises or climbing strings to almost any height, and the beans may be edible for aught that I know.

E. S. Gilbert.

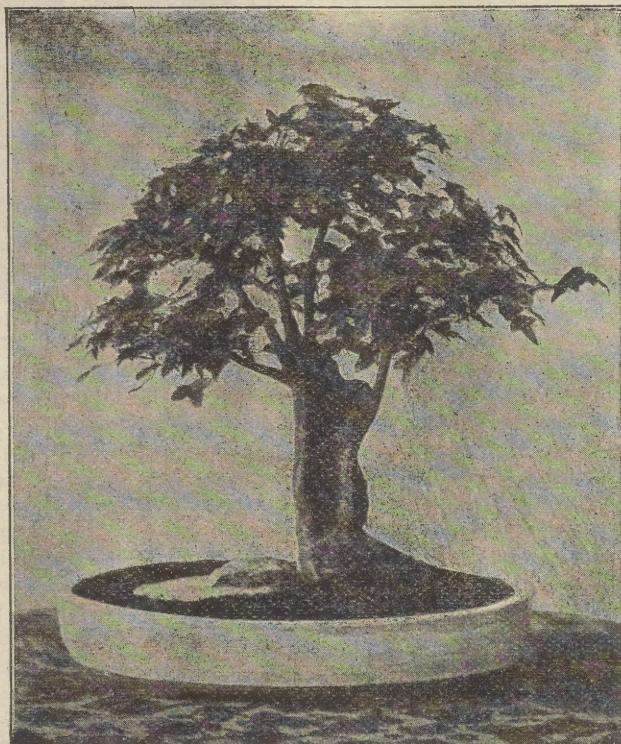
JAPANESE GARDENING.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

The Japanese must be allowed to have distanced us altogether in at least one branch of education. Enthusiasts in gardening would fain live to see the day when every householder will have his plot of garden and will know how to cultivate it. The universal spread of such knowledge seems to be almost as hopeless as the possession of plots for its exercise in our large towns. But the Japanese are all taught gardening in their schools, and all have their little plots of ground. They

are instructed in practical horticulture and in the artistic arrangement of bouquets, and all classes from the palace to the cottage manifest a passionate love of such humanizing and healthful occupations.

Nowhere in Europe, we are assured, are gardens so numerous, or the love of floriculture so extensively developed. One very curious art they seem to have brought to great perfection. Their gardens often being small, and their taste leading them to take pride in the possession of trees of the bigger species, they have gradually developed the art of dwarfing them without in any way sacrificing their general shape and proportion. Father and son and grandson will grow an oak, for instance, for fifty years or more, and will take means of preventing it ever attaining more than eighteen inches or two feet in height, though still presenting all the characteristics of the full-grown tree in trunk, branch and foliage. Among their family treasures to be handed down from one generation to another may often be found a well-arranged garden, established in some antique specimen of Japanese pottery in the shape of a capacious bowl. Within this receptacle will be walks and trees and flower beds, with a great variety of floral favorites, all dwarfed to the proper proportions. One further development of this odd manipulation



Maple Tree About One Foot High—Sixty Years Old—Sold to H. R. H. the Princess of Wales, Yokohama, November, 1898.

of natural objects is the patient training of the minified trees and shrubs into the forms of birds and beasts, or any other object that may strike the fancy, or may be suggested by the accidental shape of the plant, a refinement of gardening, which in barbarism very nearly approaches our fashion of clipping shrubs into the forms of plum puddings, or perpetually snipping trees that might become beautiful into close imitations of German toys.

George B. Griffith

FLOWERS FOR CUTTING.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

"Spake full well in language quaint and olden,
One who dwelleth by the castled Rhine,
When he called the flowers so blue and golden
Stars which in earth's firmament do shine."

Being an ardent lover of flowers, I wish to plead with other flower-lovers to make the best use of their floral treasures; that is, to devote them to promoting the happiness of others.

Among the pleasantest memories of my childhood is one of a kindly hostess who used to bid me pick a good bouquet before going home. How well I remember her flower beds, especially one which contained a profusion of Petunias. Doubtless she would have picked as many for me as I did for myself, but to my childish mind it was bliss unspeakable to feel that I was trusted to "pick and choose" at my own sweet will. It was always a treat to visit her, and now, in loving memory of that kind friend, I want to urge all flowers-loving sisters to devote a space to a "visitor's garden," and allow each child visitor to pick a bouquet for herself, even if a very small one, and make her feel free to do it. No grown person can estimate the pleasure this gives a child, unless, like myself, they judge by experience.

From my own childish preferences and careful notice of what other children like, I would advise every sister to purchase a few seeds of gay colored Nasturtiums, bright Petunias, flaming Eschscholtzias, the Double Feverfew, which gives the touch of white, a few of our grandmothers' favorites, the Marigolds, and the lovely *Schizanthus*, which is at once the wonder and delight of every child. And last, but not least, have some Pansies, which are favorites with everybody, and, perhaps, a few Sweet Peas. Of course this list can be abbreviated at one's discretion, but it is a very good collection of children's favorite flowers.

When we have a chance to give children pleasure, let us think what our influence may be over them and strive to use it for good, so that when grown to manhood and womanhood they may say of us, "I am the better for the influence they exerted over me in childhood." Try the "visitor's garden," and see if you are not well repaid.

Lillian E. Brown.

FEBRUARY.

Still lie the sheltering snows, undimmed and white;
And reigns the winter's pregnant silence still;
No sign of spring save that the catkins fill,
And willow stems grow daily red and bright.
These are the days when ancients held a rite
Of expiation for the old year's ill,
And prayer to purify the new year's will:
Fit days, ere yet the spring rains blur the sight,
Ere yet the bounding blood grows hot with haste,
And dreaming thoughts grow heavy with a greed
The ardent summer's joy to have and taste;
Fit days, to give to last year's losses heed,
To reckon clear the new life's sterner need;
Fit day, for Feast of Expiation placed!

Helen Hunt Jackson.



Single and Double Gaillardias

Talks About Flowers

By
BENJAMIN B. KEECH



PLANTS WORTH HAVING.

Before many months have passed, it will be time to buy and pot such plants as you desire for interior decoration, later on, and if you have not a good supply already, I wish you would procure a few palms. With one or two exceptions, these plants are head and shoulders above all others, as far as decorative qualities are concerned; and it would be difficult to find anything else in the catalogue that will get along better in the average living room. Their culture is comparatively simple, and they well repay all the care bestowed upon them. Those who have never grown palms should give them a trial. They may be planted advantageously in May or June, when the artificial heat in the living rooms will not harm them.

If I could have but one palm, I think it would be *Kentia Belmoreana*. This, to my mind, is the most beautiful and satisfactory of all palms, and it will stand the inconveniences of the living room with ease. To be sure, there are other palms equally as hardy among which are *Latania Bonbonica*, *Washingtonia filifera* and *Phoenix reclinata*. These are all different, and possess everything to recommend them. Another very pretty palm is *Cocos Weddeliana*, which always appears neat and attractive, if given good care. It does not attain the size of most of the others, however, but this is nothing against it, for it may often be used to advantage where larger specimens would be out of place. Another handsome small palm, often used for table decoration, is *Livistonia rotundifolia*.

I hope you are interested in begonias, for this family of plants includes some very worthy members. Perhaps you are acquainted with only the "buckwheat" and "beefsteak" varieties? If so, let me introduce you to the Rex begonias, which are so beautiful that all must love them. Your catalogue will describe them better than I can, here, but if you want to see them for yourself, go to a florists, and I am sure you will succumb at once to their many charms. The Rex begonia, in addition to being extremely good looking, is also very well behaved. If you can give it a good light, but not intense sunshine, a proper supply

of water and food when it needs it, besides protection on cold nights, you can grow it with success. The plants are comparatively rapid growing, and in a short time you will have a collection that will fill your heart with joy and your neighbors with envy, for twelve months out of the year.

The caladium is a plant worth having. I refer to the fancy leaved varieties, that you will have in pots for use around the veranda and yard. The foliage is spotted and marked with white, pink and crimson on a green ground, and the plants will surely interest and please those who grow them. *Asparagus Sprengeri* is a very desirable and satisfactory plant, either in a hanging basket or out; but as far as genuine beauty is concerned, I think that the laurels should be given to the *asparagus plumosus nanus*, sometimes called the lace fern, though it is not a fern. The foliage is feathery, airy, lace-like and dark green; the plants are quick growing and easy to cultivate.

Perhaps it is not necessary for me to say anything about other varieties of ferns, yet if you have never grown them, I would like to advise you to do so in the near future; for, next to palms, nothing is more beautiful. A three year old specimen of the Boston fern will fill an ordinary large window with foliage; it would take quite a sum of money to buy it from you. The sword fern is more dignified in growth, but equally as desirable. *Abutilon Savitzii* is a fine plant with beautifully variegated white and green foliage. It looks nice when grouped with a fern and a palm. Among the flowering plants that every one ought to have, the baby primrose deserves particular notice. At first, one may not regard it with favor, but after awhile it will win for itself, a place, both in your heart and winter window garden.

CARE OF HOUSE PLANTS IN WINTER.

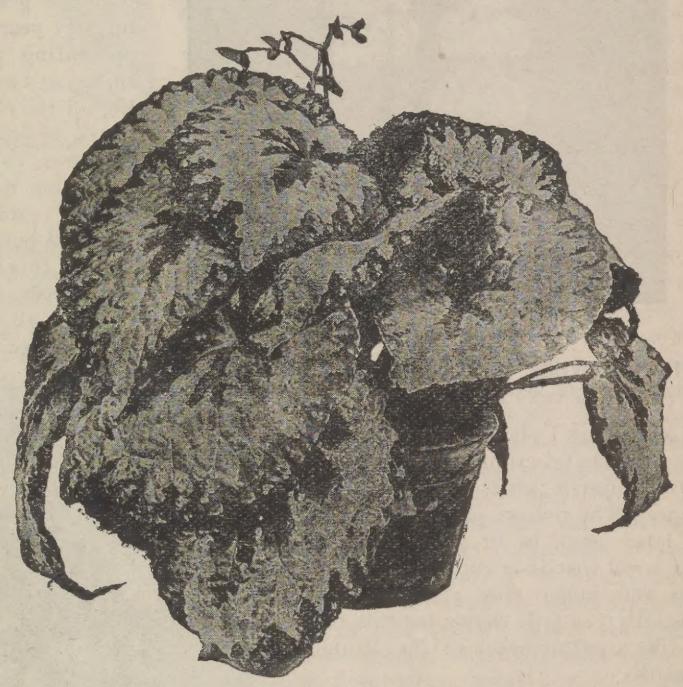
Before I try to interest you in any more plants, let me tell you how to care for those that you have already on hand. At this season, most plants will be starting into active growth, and daily attention should be given, in order to realize complete success. Water your plants thoroughly, when the dirt begins to look and feel dry on top; then leave them alone until the soil again indicates dryness. Plants that are coming into bloom will probably need to be fed. Observe directions on package of plant food, and do not overfeed. Perhaps it is unnecessary to say that plants at a standstill should be given no fertilizer at all, and very little water.

Plants in a warm, dry room will need more attention, so far as moisture is concerned, than others. Keep a basin of water on the stove or radiator, and the atmosphere will become much more congenial. Hanging baskets will dry out quicker than other receptacles, because the air around them is considerably warmer. They should be seen to. It is not right to have the water too cold, it should be about the same temperature as the air in the room, and should always be clean. It is not advisable to use dishwater on your indoor plants, although for outdoor ones it might do.



BABY PRIMROSE

No matter whether your rooms are extremely dusty or not, you should shower your plants once a week. There is a double purpose in washing them; to keep the dirt from clogging up the pores in the leaves, and to keep insect enemies at bay. If the foliage is showered frequently, the red spider cannot get a foothold; for it hates water, and cannot flourish where the atmosphere



BEGONIA REX

is kept moist. Therefore, if you do not think the plants need to be sprayed to rid them of dust, perhaps you will tend to them for the sake of warding off all possible insect attacks.

A moist atmosphere of about sixty-five or seventy degrees Fahr. will suit most plants a great deal better than any other; and whenever possible it should be provided. Wood is generally preferred above coal; and, as a rule, the plants should not be in the same room with a stove, unless they are some distance from it. As stated before, however, a basin of water kept replenished over the fire will do much toward keeping the atmosphere in proper condition. In the kitchen, the tea-kettle performs this office. A thermometer should be kept near your plant window to tell you when the temperature is too high or too low.

One great trouble with plants at this season of the year is that they are liable to become chilled unless they are cared for properly at night. During February we usually experience our worst cold weather, and even houses that are supposed to be frost proof, are not always able to keep out the cold air. Some plants chill easier than others, but all should be cared for. Ordinarily, a few newspapers, pinned securely back of the plant will do, but at other times the specimens should be grouped on a table and covered with newspapers, pinned together. It is also advisable to burn an oil heater or large lamp, near the plants all night, if the fire is allowed to go down. An ingenious person could make a frost-proof box in which to put the plants on cold nights.

The soil should be loosened now and then; do not allow it to remain crusted over all winter. Use a table fork, but do not probe down too

(Continued on page thirty-six.)

AN OASIS IN A DESERT

By
E. H. RYDALL

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In a treeless land (except for the vast orchards created by the irrigation of the Anglo-Saxon), like Southern California, where the brown mesas with their khaki-colored summits weary the eye of the traveler, nothing can be more gratifying to the lover of plants and flowers than the approach to one of the little valleys, where nestle the cottages of the ranchers near the small towns. Each of these possesses a variegated garden which contrasts so vividly with the dull sun scorched surroundings, that we gaze upon them with unusual interest. In the vicinity of Santa Paula, Oxnard and Buenaventura, the green carpet that covers the valleys, resulting from the cultivation of beets and beans, relieves the barren outlook, but south of these, for two hundred miles, to the old Mexican line, the abomination of desolation, except the aforesaid orchards, is beheld on every side.

Passing up from Buenaventura—a little mission town built on the shore of that vast, lonely, silent body of water, the Pacific Ocean—we reach level after level of agricultural land, partly devoted to grain and partly to orchards. This is one of the sanitaria of California, containing a peculiar atmosphere, sheltered from the sea breezes somewhat by the volcanic upheavals that intervene and yet cooled by them withal, containing numerous residences of the wealthy of eastern cities, who have been compelled to become ranchers in this cream-like atmosphere, not for the love of it, but to prolong the lives they so much value. Such people, possessed of ample means, have luxuriated in bucolic improvements; systems of irrigation have been established, some of them costing thirty thousand dollars; vast orchards are cultivated annually, yielding their fruit to the little freight car that hangs to the lilliputian engine on its daily trip down to the coast. So large has been the product of apricots this season that tons of this fruit have had to go to waste, the proprietors not being able to obtain sufficient help to garner the crop. But what care these wealthy

consumptives for the loss of a few tons of fruit? The most beautiful gardens surround their extensive houses, situated in remote solitudes though they may be. Here at the various seasons every flower blooms; the glowing nasturtiums, the begonias in their beautiful masses of color, giant cosmos, carnations, which arrive at perfection in Southern California, dahlias, California poppies; that wonderful Hibiscus rosella from Jamaica, a flower that makes jam as good as mother used to make; purple heliotropes, cardinal lobelias, the variegated petunias, passion flowers, sweet peas, fuchsias, all manner and kinds of roses, gigantic geraniums covering the side of a house, chrysanthemums in all their majesty, flowering cannas, violets and the amaryllis. To these beautiful gardens a semi-tropic appearance is imparted by rows of palms, dracaenas, the unique bamboo and the curious aloe. Cacti ten feet high lend their strange outlines to the general impression, and here and there may be observed among other torrid specimens, euphorbias and the phyllocactus.

But the object of our journey is not to gaze upon the results of invested capital in a small valley among a thousand desolate mountain peaks, for two thirds of Ventura County, and indeed of California, is mountain, but to visit a certain famed Matilija Springs, the waters of which, it is understood, are for the healing of the nations. Four hours drive from Ventura, ascending from forty-four feet above the sea to one thousand and eight, we arrive at the entrance to a small glen or ravine. Here grow all manner of forest trees, some lofty, but diminutive compared with the perpendicular heights above, around which the eagle soars and the mists of the morning linger. We hear the sound of a stream for the first time, and behold dashing from rock to rock, always noisy and always agreeable, a mountain torrent. Crossing and recrossing this several times, for the stream is only two feet in depth in summer time, we journey around the

curiously cut faces of precipitous rocks covered with climbing plants, and finally emerge upon a clearing some two hundred feet in width, wherein are a collection of buildings and tents, an immense bathhouse, pavilion and other improvements. This is Matilija Springs, famed all over California for the merits of its hot sulphur waters, and these buildings—or some of them—contain the baths. But we journey on beneath other precipitous

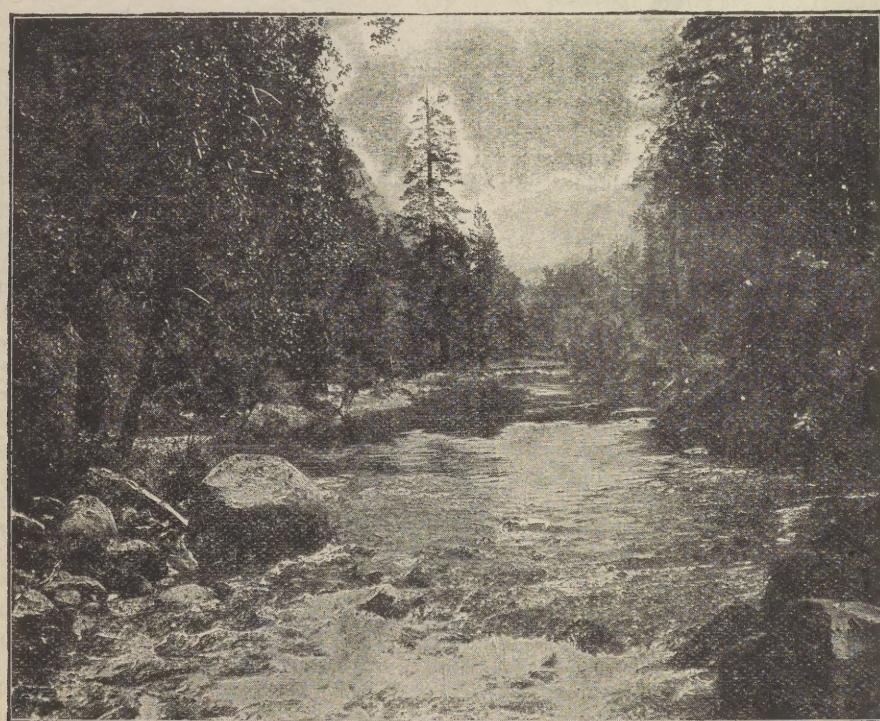


FIVE MILES ABOVE THE SPRINGS.

heights some five or six miles farther and arrive at a clearing some ten acres in extent, where a small orchard is trying to preserve life. Here we find another but smaller collection of sulphur springs and here we remain, for very soon the high road ceases and the mountains can be traversed only on foot or on horseback.

We are promised magnificent views if we go on, even grander than those we have seen, and, finally, after fifty miles of climbing an entrance into the progressive town of Bakersfield; but we prefer the Springs and the Valley of the Ojai, from whence we have recently come. We prefer the wealthy invalids and the society of the rheumatic at Matilija Springs to the lonely company of the coyote and the almost invisible deer in the solitude of the mountains. Spreading our tent we seek repose and refreshment in the wildest wilderness, hearing nothing but the eternal flow of the mountain brook and the distant familiar voice of some rooster, as it cheers us with the recollection that although so far away from the world apparently, we are close to humanity.

Our return must be the way we have come, for there is no other with our impedimenta; around us in every direction are the heights upon heights of sun scorched mountains, through which a dust-covered road winds to lead us back to the little town of Ventura-by-the-Sea, where we find ourselves at home again, comparatively, among the conglomeration of California residents to which we have become accustomed. We listen once more to the various dialects of the American, the omnipresent utterances of the Mexican half-breed, familiar in every place of resort, to the French, the German, the chop talk of the Chinese and the gentle syllables of the Jap, yea, everything except the gutteral, discordant noises of the original proprietor of the soil—the wild Indians, who a hundred years ago dwelt in these parts in multiplied thousands, while he obeyed the fathers in the erection of magnificent buildings that now as majestic ruins adorn California. For here are the children of the Mayflower, as well as those of untutored scions of a savage race, the Norman, the Hebrew and the Greek.



THE BABBLING BROOK IN MATILJIA CANYON.

Through Fields and Woodlands

BY N. HUDSON MOORE



HERE is an old saw which runs "When the days begin to lengthen, Then the cold begins to strengthen," and it is applied to the month of February. But to me February is always the month of awakening. Nature becomes restless and turns over in her sleep, as it were. There is generally a thaw and after it I hurry out to see what is about to repay me for my search.

If I find a butterfly, it will be the well-known "yellow-edge" which is never so pretty as in this month when we are so glad to see it, or it may be the Red Admiral, or the Semicolon, all of them stout little insects even if they do seem gossamer things, and all belonging to the "angle-wings."

If the sun is warm and the air is balmy as it often is for a day or two in February you may find these butterflies courageous enough to try and take a little flight; usually, however, they content themselves with just coming out into the sunshine and "thawing out." The twenty-third of last February was unusually mild, even though snow still lay on the ground, and a song sparrow lifted up its voice and sang from a clump of bushes near the roadside.

These earliest returned birds do not come from the far South, as is generally supposed, but from some winter refuge near by. Perhaps they have not been farther south than fifty or a hundred miles, a mere wing-beat for a bird, or have been cozy in a nearby swamp and heard the distant voice of Spring before our finite ears could catch it. The song sparrow, at most times of the year a truly mundane little bird, busy hunting food and rearing its young, is in these first days of its return a being endowed with almost celestial qualities. Its song poured out with that reckless prodigality which distinguishes it, always seems the finest song in Nature, and we can hardly believe that later in the season we will almost wish it less vocal, so that the songs of other and rarer birds can be distinguished.

If you have an evergreen tree in your vicinity, particularly if it be a cone-bearer, you will be repaid for such time as you can give to watching it.

Food is scarce by this time, the barberries, the red berries from the magnolia trees, the seeds from golden-rod and burdock pretty well picked out. The evergreen is quite a good hotel, for under its rough bark are myriads of insects and eggs, so that an active bird may pick up

a good meal. The pine cones furnish food for such seed-eating birds as have bills strong enough to extract them. There is always a chance of finding at this season pine siskins, a bird not unlike the sparrow tribe to which it belongs, but with yellow at the base of the tail, and more on the wings which render it easy to distinguish.

I have found these birds in February, not far

from city limits, going over a mountain ash-tree in a careful and painstaking manner, not leaving a twig till it was stripped of its berries and then passing quietly to the next.

Like the snow bunting and the American crossbill the arrival of these birds seems always by accident. You can never predict when they may appear. The snow birds fairly "blow in," frequently in the midst of a storm, and they pass on as secretly and silently as they came.

If there is a brook to be come at easily, you will find there unmistakable signs of activity. The surface will be rippled by the antics of the whirligig beetle, a curious insect which we overlook when warm weather brings other species to interest us.

This small creature must bear a warm heart, or what answers for one in the insect world, beneath his coat of mail, for as long and as often as the water is not frozen over he is to be seen scurrying



THE CROSSBILL.

about on the surface of the water full of life and activity. This little beetle must have been provided for winter study when other subjects are few and far between, for he has almost as many points of interest as a bee, and we do not include the latter's sting among them.

Admirably provided as the whirligig is for an aquatic life, he can take to the air if the fancy move him, for underneath the polished halves of his back lie two fine gauzy wings which can be spread in a moment and change him from a swimmer to a flier. His eyes are also quite unusual, for he has what so many small children think their teachers have, eyes in the back of his head.

One pair of eyes—those which he uses when swimming to keep a watch on what is going on below him—are provided with shields, or you might almost say goggles. It is these eyes which enable him to keep out of reach of other water creatures larger and stronger than he is, which might gobble him up. With wings for flying, and eyes for seeing under water and in the air, for his second pair of eyes keep watch above, so that his alertness when any one comes too near his puddle is explained, you would think him pretty well equipped. We have not alluded yet

to his provision for swimming, and he is one of the most agile divers you can find. On the two hind pairs of legs are paddles, wide and flat, which enable him to make surprising bursts of speed, and waltz about in that giddy manner which gives them the name of whirligigs. When they take one of their rapid headers down below, they are obliged, if they want to stay down, to hold on by their

forelegs, which are long and slender. Beneath the tips of the black wing cases as they dive is caught a bubble of air, which almost answers the purpose of a buoy. When they want to rise to the surface they release their hold on the water plants and up they go. Surely few creatures are so well provided as this humble little beetle for flying, swimming and seeing.

With birds to be found, and insects not lacking, we shall not be satisfied unless the plant world shows signs of reviving.

All winter long, if you will take the trouble to brush away the snow, you will find green rosettes of the thistle which lie low to escape freezing, of the pepper-grass and occasionally of the dandelion. Creeping along by a sheltered wall or fence, I always hunt for the chickweed, that tramp beloved only by the canary, yet whose weak stem and insignificant flower have borne it on a progress around the world.

A half a ray of sun is all that is needed to make this weed unfold its meek little blossom, set its fruit and go bravely on fulfilling the purpose for which it was created. In the summer time this plant is a great producer of nectar, and if you look in the tiny blossom you will find drops of it there. So also do flies and small bees, which have no objection to the way the plant shoves itself into garden spots where choice plants are more welcome. By the end of February larches show a delicate flush of green, even bare twigs and branches take upon themselves a bloomy look, buds on shrubs take to swelling visibly, too often suffering from the cruelty of March. If you hear a lively tattoo out of doors and seek for its perpetrator, a lively little creature in black and white picked out with red on head and throat will reward your search. The downy woodpecker seems to become more friendly, and comes nearer to our homes, particularly if a bit of suet be firmly tied to a branch so that he can hammer at it when he feels inclined. Twice this bird has deceived me with his loud, clear call into believing that a robin was about. The notes are very similar and when I discovered that they were coming from the woodpecker's throat, the surprise was complete. The hairy woodpecker which is very similar to the

downy, save in size, also comes about very early in the year, and the owls, though we may only hear them occasionally, are turning their thoughts to household cares, and looking over the hollow trees and old nests of crow or hawk to decide which is the most roomy and comfortable.

We have about twenty species of

(Continued on page sixteen.)



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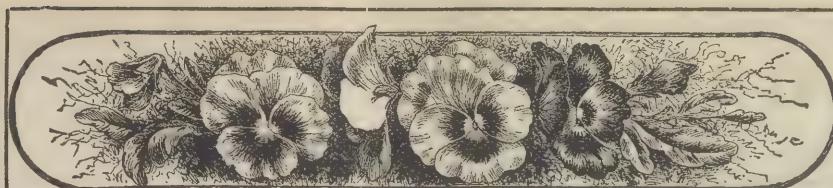
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THE MOTHER'S MEETING

By Victoria Wellman

"God could not be everywhere—so He made Mothers."

"Please, mamma, can't I help you?
I's tired of make believe,
I want to play real earnest—
Wish I could sew the sleeve."

The precious face was clouded,
The eyes had wistful grown,
The pretty lips were quivering
Like a rose by wind waves blown.

"I's dot so tired of kitty—
He scratched me on the head—
And dolly's been so naughty,
I's putted her to bed.

"Put a knot in both ends, mamma,
So the thread won't all pull out."
The little face was glowing—
Gone every tear and pout.

The dimpled little fingers
Were working hard full soon,
And baby "helped" her mamma
The livelong afternoon.

At last the work was finished,
Crooked and pucker'd in,
But mamma kissed her darling
For the "help" that she had been.

So I think God takes our striving,
Tho' our seams are crooked, too—
'Tis not what we have done always,
But what we try to do.

Selected.

To those who have written me responding to my heartfelt desire to begin among our mother-readers a Heartsease Circle in memory of one precious human heartsease, I send true thanks, feeling past expression uplifted by warm words from those who have grieved, or those who have that innate sympathy which learns without grief to comfort others. I will preserve the fragrant letters—like some of my loved pansies, subtly sweet. Let others write for the free pansies for as I prepare this copy in advance, there remain many to receive some.

The purposes of the Heartsease Circle are: To try to think kindly of all; to show mercy when judging; to name the angel side of any absent one who may be censured; to help, help; not with hands only but with hearts; to do little things for peace and love as never before. And later, to help the victims of life to be victors, i. e., to take some girl of evil parentage and give her a chance, new surroundings, and a domestic science course as a security and reliance to begin her life anew. Think how many, innocent, blameless, ignorant of the world's scorn as yet, though doomed to feel it soon unless some arm shields her, are mere girls yet—like our own. Let us not squander our pence too far but seek to prevent or cure evils near home.

You, most of you, know the aim and methods of the Sunshine society (God bless it). I know the dear lady who began this labor of love and

others who labor in philanthropies as vital. May our Heartsease Circle bloom with loving thoughts and send forth branches. If my wish is granted, we shall some day need a simple, dainty badge pin—a pansy design—and feel deeply convinced that our labors are blessed.

Oh, mothers, plant the pansy seeds early in boxes and transplant them. Tend them in the shady, quiet places, and water them well so they may not cease blooming in hot July or August, and then, pick those sweet blossoms I love and with a few choice ones and a little slip of paper on which you write, "With loving thoughts" (or any message you choose) take them to sick mothers, children—even the neighbors who have been "queer"—send them to those in disgrace, lay them on coffins, give them to poor children, to naughty ones. Thus would my little one have done, she whose very breath was a wish to "help." Will you, dear mothers, will you join in this? Will you lead others whose hearts are broken to do heartsease work for others who need sympathy (even if it be only silence when everyone else condemns aloud)? and thus they will earn heartsease despite their loneliness. So, it is only homely "doorstep" work? Yes, though ahead are larger deeds. "Am I my brother's (sister's) keeper?" is the test question. "Judge not," the law. "Be merciful and helpful," the motto.

"Put yourself in his place—unless you know every past detail how wicked to denounce a stranger or neighbor.

Another point. As the season closes gather seed of all your pansies to use again. Let us keep Heartsease every year, for our own and for others.

Busy Mothers.

All the mothers who even find time to read my words are truly busy,

whether living in country, village, town, or city. Still "we" used to have a deal of spare time, just before time for maple sap to run, for doing spring sewing and fancy work and now-a-days that farm life seems the best life, its quiet more to be coveted since the noisy cities I have known and the stress and worry of artificial cares.

It is a great family mis-
(Continued on page twenty-eight)

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My Treasure

An Interesting Story In Six Chapters

(Continued From January Issue.)

But before Mary had been with me a year, there was no doubt at all about her beauty. As the hollows in her poor face filled up, and a soft pink stole into her cheeks, she began to look so much younger, that one day I said to her—

"Mary, you are a most deceitful woman!"

"I think not," she answered, smilingly. "What have I done?"

"Well, that snowy day that first saw you in this house, I fancied that you were a woman of three or four and forty, at the least. Now I see that you are nothing of the kind. Pray, madam, how old are you, if it is fair to ask?"

"Twenty-eight," she answered; "quite elderly, don't you think? When I was seventeen, I considered a woman of twenty-eight quite old, I remember."

"But I am not seventeen—far otherwise," said I, "and I consider twenty-eight ridiculously and scandalously young. If it were not for your hair, you would not look your age. What was the color of your hair, Mary?"

"My hair?" she said, slowly. "Oh, white—it was always white. There was a girl long ago who had golden-brown hair, but she's dead, poor thing—and buried—at least I hope so;" and rising, she went over to a mirror and looked at herself rather anxiously. "Oh, quite dead, quite!" she said; "there is no danger that any one will think of that girl when they see—Mary Smith."

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I had written to Philip, telling him that I had found my treasure, and he had answered my letter. From that time we kept up a kind of correspondence, exchanging letters perhaps three times in a year. But when Mary had been about five years with me, Philip came home for a few days. He was leaving Vienna, and going to a new place in a higher position—in fact, he had begun to "make his mark," and his career seemed to lie before him fair and prosperous. Yet he was in miserable spirits, and could hardly rouse himself to take his usual kindly interest in my affairs, though he laughed at me a little when I sang the praises of Mary Smith, who was in Scotland taking some sketches and notes for me.

"Well, if you had seen her, you would not wonder at my affection for her," said I. "But she thought that when I should have you with me, it was a good time for her to go to F—; and she is such a desperately tidy creature, that she has put away every sketch and every note-book. I have made the servants search but not a scrap can they find. I wanted to show you her sketches, for you could appreciate them—half the people who see them say, 'How unfinished!' Do you ever sketch now, Phil?"

"Never. Gave it up, with other youthful follies, long ago. Well, dear Frances, good-by. I shall not have a moment to myself to-morrow, for I am to be with the chief all the morning. I am so glad to find you so cheery. Miss Smith has my very best thanks for making your life so tolerable. Tell her so—will you?"

"Certainly. Must you really go, Philip? Well, it has been delightful to see you again; but—may I say it, dear?—has the time not come for telling me the story you promised me? Do you remember?"

"I remember. No; not yet, Fan. I came home this time full of a—well, I suppose I may call it a hope. I had heard something. But I have failed again. I think I shall always fail."

"Dear Philip, don't be angry! but why do you allow your life to be so overshadowed by a—by what is past and gone? You are still a young man. I want to see you a happy man."

"I'm not unhappy, you know."

"I want you to marry," said I, boldly; "to have a home and forget—and have an interest in life once more."

"Sometimes," he said, simply, "I wish I could. If I even knew that she was happy, cared for—at rest anyhow—I think I could do it; but not as things are. Frances, you are a kind creature, and some day I shall tell you all."

My poor, brave Philip! what business have men with such tender hearts? One comfort is, not many men are so troubled.

When Mary came home, I gave her his message, thus—

"By the way, Mary, my cousin Philip left a message for you."

Mary started so violently that she upset the china basket she was filling with flowers, breaking its twisted handle, and making a perfect mess on the tablecover. Of all this she seemed quite unconscious; and though usually so neat-handed and so quick to repair any little misfortune, she now let the water meander about the table and run off into her own lap, spoiling her dress completely.

"A message!" she cried, her eyes fixed on me anxiously.

"Well, you are nervous to-day, Mary! I shall send you to bed early—you are overtired. It was only to thank you for making my life so happy—tolerable, he said. I say happy. Now, ring for Essie, and go and change your dress; you are all wet. Oh, Mary, you've cut your hand with the china. Come here, dear."

"China—what china?" she said. "Oh, my hand is bleeding."

And without more ado she fainted away—she never could bear the sight of blood—leaving me to shout and scream for Essie until I wonder the policeman outside did not walk in. Mary went off to bed with a headache. Ah me! how blind I was!

CHAPTER IV.

"YOU KNOW THIS NAME?"

As time went by, I believe I forgot that there was any mystery about Mary Smith, or that the golden-haired girl who was "dead and buried" had borne another name, to me unknown. Mary accommodated herself to my needs, likings, and even fancies, so completely, that it seemed impossible that a few years ago she was to me a perfect stranger—nay, that in some sense she was a stranger still. For except the chance conversation that I have recorded, she never talked of her youth, nor of anything that had happened to her before she came to me.

I got very, very fond of her; she was to me as a dear younger sister, and I sometimes found myself expecting her to remember things that had happened when I was a girl at home in my father's rectory, just as if she had been little sunny-haired Lily, who died while quite a child.

Well, the months grew to years, and we were quite happy together. When she had been with me ten years, there came a change that pleased me greatly. I heard from Philip, who had been offered a very fine appointment in the Foreign Office, and meant to accept it, perhaps get into Parliament, and in any case live in London.

This story is about my dear Mary; but though I hate speaking of my own sufferings, I must say here that they had of late been worse than at



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any time since I first got a little better after my accident. I had been very ill, and Mary had nursed me night and day. I hated having strangers about me. We had the pleasant prospect, too, of a recurrence of this illness; for the bone which I had so thoroughly smashed was beginning to make itself troublesome, after taking nine years to think about it!

"Mary," said I, "give me my writing-case; I'll answer this myself. I am so pleased. My cousin Philip—by the way, you have not met him yet—is coming to London—for good, as the phrase goes—to live, at all events. He thinks he would like a small house better than chambers. What does he want with a house? Perhaps he means to take my advice, and get married."

"Married?" echoed Mary. "Does he say so?"

"No; but what does a single man want with a house? I must admit that he says 'a very small one,' so I suppose it is only that he likes quiet."

I wrote my letter, and then looked round for Mary, fancying that she might have left the room. There she was, however, and employed in the most unexpected manner. She was standing before a tall mirror which filled the space between two windows, and was gazing into it earnestly. Her beautiful eyes were somewhat short-sighted, and she had bent forward until the tip of her nose almost touched the glass.

"What's the matter, Mary?" said I. "Have you got something in your eye? Come here; I shall get it out better than you can."

"There is nothing, thank you. Have you finished your letter? You are very fond of your cousin; why do you not ask him to live with you?"

"Why, even if it would be convenient, I have not room, you know."

"Oh, but then you would not want me," she said, rather unsteadily.

"My dear girl, don't be silly! Philip is to be chief-something-or other in the Foreign Office, and in the House presently. I shall consider myself very lucky if I see him once a month; and I never heard that he was much of a sick-nurse. Mary, dear, don't talk as if you and I could part—I never feel as if we could. You have made me quite uncomfortable."

Mary kissed me. She was very silent and absent all that evening. Before we separated she said to me—

"Do you know, I believe you are right about saving my eyes. I am getting * * at least I feel them sometimes. I think I will have advice about them."

"Indeed I wish you would, if you have any strange feel in them," said I; "and I see that the lids are red, now that I look at you. You shall go tomorrow."

And she did go, returning the happy possessor of a pair of smoke-colored spectacles, with the most enormous glasses, which she said she was to wear when she felt inclined.

"When you feel any weakness in your eyes, you mean," said I. "Well, you don't look a bit like yourself, Mary!—and what, pray, is this new way of doing your hair?"

For her very abundant hair, instead of being swept loosely back and coiled up at the back of her head, was dressed high up on her head, and was, moreover, so thoroughly combed up, that not a wilful little ripple showed itself. As to the dear, wee, white rings that used to come peeping round her pretty ears, they had vanished.

"As I was out," she said, "I thought I would go to D—'s and learn some new way of putting up my hair. I've never changed it since I was a girl. The fashion now is for every one to wear caps, and I have bought some. I think they will suit my venerable locks,—don't you? Well, have you anything ready to be written?"

I did not like her nearly so well in her caps, with all the natural waviness banished from her hair but for once she was obstinate, saying as she had bought the caps she was bound to wear them. As to the spectacles, they made her look so comical that I always laughed at her when she wore them, and they generally remained in the pretty case which she wore at her side. Why is it that some people look so absurd in spectacles?

Philip came to London in due time, and soon wrote a line to say he would be with me in the evening. Mary, who was always very careful not to be in the way, said she would take the opportunity to go to some lecture that she wished to hear; and she went, and did not come home again until Philip had gone. The same thing happened several times, until Philip remarked gravely that he began to think that Fanny's treasure had no real existence, and ought rather to be called Mrs. Harris than Miss Smith.

"Well, she really runs away on purpose," I said. "She has a perfect horror of being in the way, and she says that you and I must have much to say to each other. Come on Monday—she is always here when I have visitors. But I just wish you had seen her before she altered her way of dressing her hair. Her old way was

(Continued on page thirty-one)

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Aunt Abby's Tithes

BY ANNIE TRUMBULL SLOSSON



After I joined the church, and so put myself down regular on the Lord's side, I began to consider just what I ought to do about my charities. I was born and raised sort of free-handed,—took it from both pa and ma. So I didn't try to see how little I could give away and keep up appearances and satisfy my conscience, but how much I could spare and yet get along. I never had a head for figures. I was always at the foot of the arithmetic class,—don't really know the multiplication-table to this day, and am forever getting mixed up and muddled over the bills at the store or on the farm.

"I knew I must be dreadful particular in this matter, and, if I'd got to make mistakes I must make them on the right sight; I mean I must manage to give too much rather than too little. One of pa's old sayings was, 'It's better to slop than to skimp,' and that's truer in giving to the Lord than in anything else. I didn't like to ask anybody about it. I knew better than other folks about what I owned, and, particular, how much I'd had from the Lord to be grateful for and pay back. But still I really didn't know myself just what my income was, nor how much I could afford to part with. I owned the place where I lived,—a little house with a few acres of land. I had a little money in the savings bank, and there were a few other things that brought me in something every year; but just how much it all came to I didn't know. And again, what part, how much of it all, I ought to give back in charity, I wasn't exactly sure. But I thought it over, and studied up the Bible, and, of course, prayed over it some, and by and by it seemed to come to me. I found out from the Bible that the least anybody ought to give was a tenth of what he had. It's called a tithe in some places, but Deacon Blodgett said that was the same thing, and meant a tenth part. But, as I said before, I didn't know how much property I had, so how could I divide it by ten, and get a tithe of it?

"Well, I soon saw that the only way I could fix it and be certain sure I wasn't skimping the Lord's share was this: I must divide every single thing as it came along by ten, and when I'd got the answer to the sum, I must give that away right off, before I forgot about it, always adding a little to it, for fear I hadn't divided right, knowing my bad head for figures. You have no idea how well that way worked, and works still, for I always do it to this day. I'll show you.

"There were my hens, for one thing. I had quite a lot, and they were good layers most times. Well, say I got fifteen eggs one day. As soon as I'd counted them I'd divide them by ten. It would go once and something over, so, of course, I'd call it twice. There'd be two eggs that didn't belong to me, but to the Lord or his people. Then there was the allowing, as I call it,—the adding on for fear I hadn't divided right; and that made three. Of course, I picked out the biggest, if there was any difference, and in some ways or other those three eggs went where they belonged. Sometimes they were sold, and the money paid into the treasury; sometimes they went just as eggs to some of the Lord's sick or poor, or to somebody doing his work.

"Then my garden: the vegetables, and the

fruit, and the flowers,—they were all divided the same way, as fast as they came on. 'Twas hard work for me, with my poor head for figures, to find out just how much a tenth part of a bushel was, when I had my roots dug,—the potatoes and turnips, carrots, and so on. I couldn't do it on paper or the slate. I just had to take each bushel itself, and lay them out in ten parts, by looks or counting. Then I'd allow, of course, feeling pretty sure I'd made some mistake, and generally add a little from nine of the heaps to the Lord's pile,—and there it was, you see, all done. 'Twas a good deal of work, but real interesting. Pumpkins were easy. They were big, and counted quick. Beans and peas were pretty difficult, but cabbages plain and easy.

"My posies didn't bring in any money; there wasn't any sale for such things in the village, of course, so they must be given away just as they were. But there were always sick people to send a little bunch to, or poor folks that hadn't any gardens, and many, many times there were the dead, with them they'd left sorrowing, wanting to lay something white and sweet and comforting on their breasts or in their cold, still hands. And there was the meeting-house to look out for Sundays with the pitcher of Canterbury bells or fox-gloves or poppies or pinks. Congregationalists—I was always one of them, you know—didn't put flowers in the meeting-house much those days. But it seemed a good thing to me, our Master having made so much of posies, and they themselves having so many little kind of sermons in them. So I began doing it, and somehow nobody stopped me, though there was some talk at first, and the story got around that Abby Coles—that's me, you know—was going over to the Episcopalians. Then there was my herb corner, where I raised thyme and sweet-marjoram and mint and summer-savory. I just admired to do the dividing up of that, for it made me think of the 'tithes of mint, anise, and cummin' the Bible tells of. You wouldn't think there was much use for such herbs in the Lord's work, but there was. There was stuffing for the tenth part of my chickens—I didn't keep turkeys—to have sage or sweet-marjoram or summer-savory or all three in, as folks chose; and there were the sausages, tithes of them to be seasoned up for the minister and his big family,—he had quivers full of children,—and for old Captain Lee, Aunt Lois Worthy, Lias Bates, and all the rest of our poor folks. And there was hardhack and boneset and motherwort, and lots of other curing, healing things for the sick and ailing. Dear me! my tenth part of that herb-bed had to have lots of allowing to make it go 'round.

"Well, so I did with everything, you see. The interest I got from the savings-bank I tithe each time it came in, always allowing more on that than on other things, because of my poor head for figures, and my being afraid I should do the sum wrong. And so with the rent for my pasture that John Walker hired for his cattle. He didn't pay very regular, sometimes not at all. But, of course, that didn't make any difference: I'd got to take a tenth of the price he'd ought to 'a' paid, besides the allowing.

"Of course, I've only told you a part of the story. 'Twould take me a year to tell about

everything,—how I measured the milk from my cow when it was new, and then the cream when it was skimmed; how, when my pigs were killed, I tithe the meat,—spare-ribs, hams, pork, and all, each by itself. My calves too,—the veal, the liver, and the head. I gave a tenth part of the use of my horse—old Jack—to the sick or poor, the minister or funerals. I tithe my hay, my oats, my buckwheat, and always every single time, of course, I allowed, to make sure I was right and honest.

"This rule of mine worked sort of queer sometimes, and turned out almost comical. I recollect once I'd been busy house-cleaning, and somehow I'd forgotten how near out the victuals in the house was. I went to set the table for tea, and I found there wasn't hardly anything in the closet but one huckleberry pie and three doughnuts. I'd got into such a habit of titheing I begun to divide those provisions right off, though I really had done it before on baking day, and sent out my tenth and the allowing. I undertook to cut that pie into ten pieces, but you know how difficult huckleberry pie is. The juice would run so and the berries squeeze out till I couldn't tell one piece from another, and, come to the tenth, there didn't hardly seem to be anything to it, even with the allowing. So I see I might as well take the whole pie, and call it a tithe, and I ran over to poor Miss Randy Shaw's with it. When I came back, I had another hard sum to do, for there were my three doughnuts to divide by ten! I was too tired to try to do that, so I eat one with my cup of tea, and laid away the others for little lame Billy, down the west road.

"There were lots of other things I can scurzely put into words,—sums you can't do by any rule of arithmetic, and yet must be taken into account and titheed. There were the kind things folks did for me, such a heap of them; for everybody's always so good to me, and I'm sure I don't know why. Those things must be divided somehow, and at least a tenth part of them passed on to them that needs them. There was my Bible and all it holds; that must have its tithe sent to those that haven't got it,—the heathen here at home and way off in distant lands. And my church,—I'm Congregational, you know,—some ways I must give part of what I got out of that. There was my minister, Mr. Jessup, too. It made me smile for a minute when I first thought of dividin' him by ten. He was dreadful poor, as far as flesh goes, and seemed as though a tithe of him wouldn't go very far. But, dear me! the goodness and kind deeds and faithful work for his people made enough to divide by a hundred.

"And then—I mean to speak very solemn and with great respect and reverence about this—there was the greatest gift I'd had in all my poor, selfish life, the Christmas Present, as I like to call it in my heart. I tried real hard to give my whole share and more of what I owed him for that, and help folks that hadn't my privileges to get its peace and comfort. I didn't think there was any need of stopping at a tenth part in that matter.

"Well, I've made a long story out of my titheing,—haven't I? But you asked me about it, you know. And it does seem to me such a good way to lay out your charities, and such an easy one, too. For, as far as I can see, it comes out just about right,—that is, if you divide every single thing as it comes along by ten, and don't wait or forget. But remember, you must always allow, even if you think you have a head for figures. Seems to me each year, as I look back and count up, that my allowance is about as big as my tithes, though I don't see how that can be. But I never was much at arithmetic,—that's the thing of it."

Sunday School Times.

The Bright Eyed Circle

Conducted by Stella M. Alderson

The Robin.

See you robin on the spray;
Look ye! how his tiny form
Swells as when his merry lay
Gushes forth amid the storm.

Though the snow is falling fast,
Speckling o'er his coat with white—
Though loud roars the chilly blast,
And the evening's lost in night—

Yet from out the darkness dreary
Cometh still that cheerful note;
Praise aye, and never weary,
In that little warbling throat.

Thank him for his lesson's sake,
Thank God's gentle minstrel there
Who, when storms make others quake,
Sings of days that brighter were.

Selected.

Birthday Rhyme for February.

The February born will find
Sincerity and peace of mind,
Freedom from passion and from care,
If they the Amethyst will wear.

This is my last word to you, Bright Eyes all, about the parrot which has been in your power to earn more easily than ever a parrot was before! It is unpleasant for me, your Aunt, to feel how few are interested enough to prove it by the simple work asked of each. Some of you sent your names—yes! But did you read how to earn that parrot? If so why do you wait until it is time to close our contest? Perhaps most of you prefer canaries. Now do you care enough to let me know just what you do wish, or explain why more answers do not come in for your puzzled Aunt? Ca-

I Will Cure You of RHEUMATISM

Else No Money Is Wanted.

Any honest person who suffers from Rheumatism is welcome to this offer.

I am a specialist in Rheumatism, and have treated more cases than any other physician, I think. For 16 years I made 2,000 experiments with different drugs, testing all known remedies while searching the world for something better. Nine years ago I found a costly chemical in Germany which, with my previous discoveries, gives me a certain cure.

I don't mean that it can turn bony joints into flesh again; but it can cure the disease at any stage, completely and forever. I have done it fully 100,000 times.

I know this so well that I will furnish my remedy on trial. Simply write me a postal for my book on Rheumatism, and I will mail you an order on your druggist for six bottles Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Cure. Take it for a month at my risk. If it succeeds, the cost is only \$5.50. If it fails, I will pay the druggist myself—and your mere word shall decide it.

I mean that exactly. If you say the results are not what I claim, I don't expect a penny from you.

I have no samples. Any mere sample that can affect chronic Rheumatism must be drugged to the verge of danger. I use no such drugs and it is folly to take them. You must get the disease out of the blood.

My remedy does that even in the most difficult, obstinate cases. It has cured the oldest cases that I ever met. And in all my experience—in all my 2,000 tests—I never found another remedy that would cure one chronic case in ten.

Write me and I will send you the order. Try my remedy for a month, as it can't harm you anyway. If it fails it is free.

Address Dr. Shoop, Box 424, Racine, Wis.

Mild cases, not chronic, are often cured by one or two bottles. At all druggists.

naries are less valuable, can not stand so much abuse, never live as long, but if it is a canary—or mayhap a pair of love birds—you young readers would work for, all I wish is, to know what you want.

Unless you begin at once to send more scraps about birds and two subscriptions to Vick's, as requested before, I shall feel obliged to end the contest. And as some of you are so good and I like you it would truly grieve me to have to disappoint all.

Scraps from Aunt Stella's Scrapbook.

Note.—You will see that very simple little scraps are useful. Some may give stories or sketches or poems; others are short facts from daily papers or from some of the many splendid bird magazines.

If you wish to lure songbirds to become constant companions provide a constant bait in the form of mulberry trees. Mulberries have an advantage over cherries by hanging a long time on the tree, several weeks indeed, during which time there will be a perfect aviary under the tree. One such tree stood close to the croquet ground and the birds were not shy though mallets and balls flew furiously. A wood thrush even perched on the stake, chirped "U-o-li," got a mulberry, and no doubt carried it home for a choice dessert for the little ones in the nest.

Mr. Seton Thompson says that the end of most wild creatures is tragic, but that full half of all nests should be barren seems by far too large a proportion, even taking boys, cats, wind and weather into consideration.

Parent birds feed the young in succession and know each from each—though all keep ceaselessly crying for food, as though starving. It is well that young birds mature quickly, otherwise the care of feeding even one brood would wear out the old birds.

Now, boys, I rely on you for you are out doors so much. There is a dispute on in which I am a party, I want you who have farmer fathers to tell me what they and yourselves have seen—surely seen—crows and barn owls do. Are crows of any use or a real nuisance? Now, do not mix those barn owls with screech owls, or great horned owls. Do you think barn owls kill our song birds, or harm them as much as crows, chipmunks, or red squirrels? Anything you know and tell me (no matter at all how you write) will be a very good scrap for me.

My bright eyed girls, I need your help. Now, when Vick's gives you those nature study sketches by N. Hudson Moore, "Through Fields and Woodlands," don't you enjoy them—enough to read them to your mother

who is "too tired to go walking," and "too busy to read"?

Aunt Stella wishes you to realize the good things before you and that you have all the city girls miss. Now they read these nature studies, first "because it is the style, you know," next, some of them take long walks, join nature study clubs, and all of them imagine you favored country lassies know all about birds—and wild flowers. Do you? If so, why not write one of those dear little girlish letters about birds, letters which I treasure?

Girls, from twelve to eighteen, I speak to you just now. Who will offer to try to start little clubs or bands to learn about birds, take walks together to see their homes, and protect them? Just "Bands of Three"—that reminds me. Of what? Of a "Band of Seven" I once belonged to, all of us being from ten to thirteen. We did many things, but one I love to remember. We bought a Chinese slave girl. Yes, raised fifty dollars and saved her for life from awful misery. She teaches in China now. I will personally answer all such letters and bless their writers for helping matters along.

A Little Helper.

"My father says I'm a great helper," Said little Miss Dorothy Gray.
"There's just only us and our Bridget,
So I have to work ev'ry day.
On Monday I help do the washing
By wiping the plates dry and bright;
On Tuesday I help Bridget iron
By folding the towels just right;
On Wednesday I help do the mending
By threading the needles up fast,
And Thursday I help clean the silver
By counting it over at last.
And Friday I help with the sweeping
By dusting as hard as I can,
And Sat'day I most do the baking
By buttering every pan,
And Sunday well, Sunday, my father
Says he doesn't actu'ly know
But he'd break right down in his sermon
At meeting if I didn't go!"

Note.—There is such help to be found for the beginners in one magazine which Aunt Stella reads, that I wish you to send in your names and I will have sample copies sent you. The

(Continued on page fourteen.)

Send ten cents in stamps to J. H. Foss, 18 Claremont Park, Boston, Mass. for two illustrated Booklets, one describing life in Florida, the other illustrating what 80 noted authors and editors call "the handsomest, raciest, most cheering book of the season," "The Gentleman From Everywhere."

SILVERWARE.

A beautiful assortment of the celebrated American silverware—viz., Spoons, Ladies, Forks and Knives. Any of these articles will make a fine wedding or birthday present. Send 2c in stamps for illustrated price list. JOHN A. DAHL, Dept. R., 885 N. Oakley Ave., Chicago, Ill.

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See Here Agents do you want goods that are staple. The kind people want and will buy and where one sale will bring orders for many more and where \$5 to \$10 a day is honestly made? If so, send us your name and address with stamp. People's Supply House, L. Box 387, Thompsonville, Conn.

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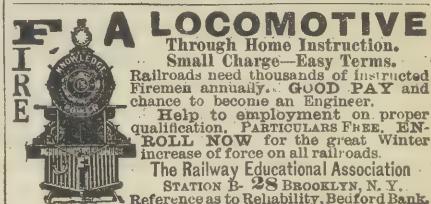
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Box 307 - - - Sheboygan, Wis.



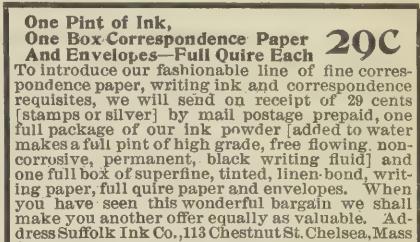
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Our Winter Fruit Diet

By Mrs. G. T. Drennan

The healthfulness of the apple has passed into a proverb. Were its hygienic properties of less value, still would the apple be a popular fruit. It is so well flavored and so appetizing that doubtless we would not resist its temptations, were it not prescribed as wholesome. It is a tempting fruit.

Chemists say the apple is composed of vegetable fibre, albumen, sugar, chlorophyll, malic acid, gallic acid, lime and considerable water. They say it contains a larger percentage of phosphorus than any other fruit or vegetable. This phosphorus is admirably suited to renewing the essential nervous element, lethicin, of the brain and spinal cord. The ancients called the apple the food of their gods. We remember our New England ancestry, including Cotton Mather, adopted the apple as a standard article of food, specially recommended for persons of studious habits and all such as were kept indoors during the long winters. Modern science approves all that has been urged in favor of the apple as a diet. It is generally used with meat, particularly pork. Apple sauce is the best accompaniment for roast pork, goose, duck, and with salt bacon, in any form. These meats are served in cold weather, and the winter apples are mellow, and ripened by nature, ready for their purpose of supplying the malic acid that neutralizes the excess of chalky matter caused by meat diet.

Apples, pears, peaches and plums are alike wholesome, but apples are more specially winter fruit than any, excepting oranges. Nothing in nature excels the citrus fruits in delicious flavor and wholesome properties, but oranges are not as solid food as apples. The citrus fruits are delicacies, desserts, and, prepared either as food or beverages, are refreshing. An orange is at its delightful best partaken fresh. It needs no preparation. While the orange is an addition to creams, glaces, custards, sherbets or any kind of dainty dessert, it is yet more wholesome and more delicious just of itself, eaten either in the early morning, at lunch, dinner or just before retiring at night.

Oranges for Breakfast.—Peel and serve on a saucer, at each plate. Large oranges, such as the Washington navel or seedless, are more juicy than the Mandarin or kid glove orange. One large orange is sufficient, though two or three may be placed at the disposal of each person. Mandarins are easily peeled and are exceedingly dainty, as they do not run nor drip juice. Oranges are served variously. Orange spoons have long narrow bowls, and for using them, the fruit is cut in half, the pulp eaten with the spoon. We are partial to the peeled orange, dividing each section, and eating, held in the tips of the fingers. The sections of large oranges are eaten from one end to the other, but the little Mandarin or kid-glove orange, makes just one dainty mouthful of each section.

Apples for Breakfast.—Fried apples serve as good purpose as fried potatoes, with breakfast meats. The Arkansas way (and that is one of the finest apple countries in the world) is to peel, core, and cut each apple into about eight pieces, lengthwise, and to fry in very hot lard. Breakfast bacon, in thin slices is broiled dry and crisp, and served on the same dish with the apples. (Not only broiled bacon, but pork of any kind.) A more general way is to cut the apple, peeling, core and all, crosswise in slices the third of an

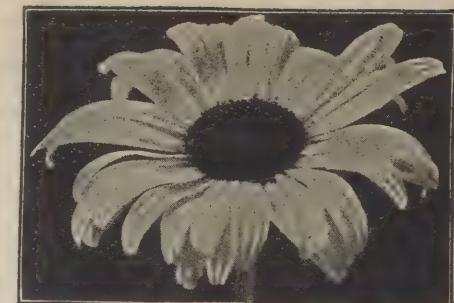
inch, more or less, and to fry in hot lard, sprinkling sugar over each piece. The fried slices, sprinkled with sugar are laid one over the other, filling a deep dish. The sugar and apple juice make a syrup or gravy, that is very nice. In all cases, the better the apple, the better the cooked product. Inferior apples are not suitable for any recipe here given.

Apple Pies for Breakfast.—Slice good, mellow apples, with some acidity to their taste. Cover the slices, which should be moderately thin, with sugar and let them stand while the pie tins are lined with pastry, rolled very thin. Lay a double row, or more, of apples, filling the pan, and pour in the juice that exudes from the sugar and apples. Use sugar to taste. Set in a moderate oven and the apples will be done when the pastry is of a light golden color. Bake them the day before, and serve cold.

Apple Pies for Dinner.—Simmer peeled and cored apples on a slow fire, in a covered boiler, with just enough water to prevent burning, until tender. When taken from the fire, beat apple, and sugar to taste, to a pulp. Add spice, or grated nutmeg, and butter in the proportion of one tablespoonful to one pint of apples. Pour into pie tins lined with pastry and bake. A meringue of the whites of eggs may be spread over the top and browned by the usual process. In this case, the yolks of the eggs may be used in the pies. Small pieces of thin pastry cut into dice, diamonds, or stars, can be laid over the top of each pie instead of meringue. Also narrow strips of pastry, twisted, may be crossed, lattice-like, over the top, when the pies are put into the oven. An upper crust can be baked over both, the plain, sliced apple pie, for breakfast, or the dessert, more highly seasoned pie, for lunch or dinner; but as the fruit is decidedly more wholesome than the pastry, we recommend the pie without an upper-crust. For dessert, a meringue is always an addition. The colored cooks say there are only three kinds of pie: "The open-top; the cross-top; and the kivered." For wholesomeness we prefer any fruit pie without the "kiver" or top-crust.

Apple Turn Overs.—Simmer peeled and cored apples until tender, using barely enough water to prevent burning, and keeping the boiler covered, which steams them and preserves the flavor. Press through a colander and sweeten to taste, using spice or nutmeg for flavoring. Have pieces of pastry, round like a saucer, and rolled thin. Place a large spoonful of apple on one half and fold the other half of the pastry over it, drawing the edges together and crimping them firmly together. Lay the turn-overs in the stove-pan, side by side, but not touching each other, and bake a light brown. These are very nice for children's school lunches.

Apple Dumplings.—Boiled dumplings are very simple. Pare good sized apples, core and cut into quarters; roll the pastry thin, cut it into sections large enough to roll around four pieces of apple. Make each one round and shapely, folding the pastry securely at the edges. Have a pan of boiling water, and a piece of white cloth for every dumpling. Dip the clean cloth into the boiling water and sift flour thickly over it; tie each dumpling, separately wrapped, and drop into boiling water. Boil steadily for half an hour. Send to the table steaming hot with butter-and-



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Vick's Garden and Floral Guide for 1903

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25 cents a copy.

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20 Bulbs 1 Calla, 1 Madeira Vine, 2 Gladiolus, 2 Cinnamon Vine, 1 Anemone, 2 Hyacinth, 1 Montbretia, 10 Bulbs for Edging or Hanging Basket. 20 Pkt Seed, 20 Bulbs, Cash Check and Catalog all for the price of the packing and postage 25c.

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My "Surprise Packet" is a Flower Garden in itself, and will delight you! It contains 20 CHOICE ANNUALS, MIXED, (guaranteed 400 seeds). Sent with my pretty Catalog and Certificate admitting to my Third Annual Prize Contest (first prize \$50) for flowers grown from it, to all enclosing 6c for postage and addresses of two others growing flowers. I want to know you. 324 prizes awarded in 1902. See 1903 catalog for list.

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Flower Pot Cover Adjustable to any size Flower Pots, (large or small). A pretty device to hide the unattractive appearance of the common flower pot. A protection from frost or heat. One dozen assorted colors and designs in nest folding box, convenient for mailing. Sent to any address.

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For Only a Short Time
Vick's 3 yrs. for \$1.00

sugar sauce, maple syrup, or cream-and-sugar sauce.

Baked Apple Dumplings.—Make these by the above directions, but put one spoonful of sugar in with the raw apple, and when the dumplings are laid in a deep baking pan, cover the top of each with sugar and butter, and pour boiling water about half way up the dumplings. Scatter a few spoonfuls of sugar in the water. Cover the baker and let the dumplings steam half an hour; uncover and allow them ten minutes to brown over the top. Serve the water, hot from the baker as sauce.

Orange Desserts.—Glace of gelatine and the pulp of the orange, sweetened to taste, is one of the most convenient of all desserts. It keeps indefinitely, and is dainty for invalids; can be served in saucers with whipped cream or boiled custard, and with new milk or sweet cream; makes an elegant dessert with any kind of cake.

Ambrosia.—This was long made of the pared oranges, sliced, but the new formula is more convenient. The oranges are cut in half, divested of every seed, and the bowl or half-orange rind served, with sugar, grated coconut or chocolate dredged over the top. An orange spoon is used in eating the pulp from the rind.

Orange Puddings, Souffles and Custards.—Any reliable formula for either of these desserts may have the pulp and juice of the orange added without more sugar or other ingredients called for. Some less milk may be used, substituting the orange juice. Only sweet oranges are good for these desserts, for which reason almost any good pudding, souffle or custard recipe will not require more sugar for the addition of oranges. Bitter and sour oranges are not used except for preserves and marmalades which call for one and a half pounds of sugar to one pound of orange.

Why He Clipped.

I saw him take the paper, and Turn to the household page, Then scan the columns up and down, As one who all would gauge, "Aha!" he muttered to himself, "Here's 'How to make Rice Fritters,' And 'How to Utilize Cold Beef,' And 'Homemade Stomach Bitters.' Then from his pocket forth he took A pair of scissors small, And severed from the printed page The helpful hints and all.

He clipped "The way to Scramble Eggs," And "How to Make Peach Butter," As well as half a dozen more. "That's all"—again his mutter. "A thoughtful man," at once I mused, "A man who cares for things; Who loves the calm, contented song The home teakettle sings. "Do you," I asked, "preserve those notes So that your wife may eye them?" "Not much," he growled, "I cut them out So she won't get to try them."

—Chicago Inter Ocean.

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING

For all the Family

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING is a monthly magazine—bright and newsy—bristling with new ideas. It tells not only how the everyday affairs of life may be conducted but also appeals to the craving for the new and helpful in household duties. Practice and inspiration is its motto.

It enables the entire household, old or young, both sexes to



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THE NEW LEDGER MONTHLY for the coming year will be marked by the same literary and pictorial excellence as has distinguished it in the past. Still greater effort will be made to secure reading matter of the highest interest and variety. The scope of the magazine has broadened, and it includes in its special departments every topic which appeals to the refined, progressive and cultivated woman of the day. The LEDGER MONTHLY has always numbered among its contributors the most popular authors, scholars and professional men, whose writings have given it a national reputation and circulation. It is a magazine which can safely be placed in the hands of every member of the family. The Fashion and Pattern departments, which have given such splendid satisfaction, are alone worth many times the cost of its subscription, and the other improvements made this year will be appreciated by all who subscribe and will make one of the best bargains in literature this season. Price \$1.00 a year.

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Good Housekeeping.....	Price \$1.00	All Three
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VICK PUBLISHING COMPANY, Rochester, New York.

Our Prize Contests

A large number have already sent in articles and stories. Send yours as soon as prepared. You can surely write an interesting and profitable article or story for one of our many contests. Read full particulars and instructions below.

NO. 1.—SHORT STORIES.

FIRST PRIZE \$50.00. SECOND PRIZE \$20.00. THIRD \$10.00. Fourth, fifth and sixth, \$5.00 each; the 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th, \$3.00 each. The stories must be of pure moral character and must not contain less than 2,000 or more than 5,000 words. We prefer to have scenes laid either in England or America.

NO. 2.—CHILDREN'S STORIES.

FIRST PRIZE \$15.00. SECOND PRIZE \$10.00. THIRD \$5.00. Fourth and fifth, \$3.00 each. Sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth, \$2.00 each. Stories must be suited for children between the ages of six and twelve years. We prefer them about animals, flowers or birds and such as will tend to make them kind to pets and animals, or give them an interest in studying nature.

NO. 3.—FLORAL ARTICLES.

FIRST PRIZE \$15.00. SECOND PRIZE \$10.00. THIRD \$5.00. The 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th \$2.00 each; the 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th and 18th \$1.00 each. Articles may contain from 200 to 1,000 words. Must be concisely told and must be plain and practical. We prefer articles based on actual experience. They may treat of one or more house plants, garden flowers or shrubs suitable for any month of the year. Articles of from 500 to 1,000 words may be told in story form if you prefer.

NO. 4.—HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

FIRST PRIZE \$5.00. SECOND PRIZE \$2.50. Third Prize \$1.50; and 25 additional prizes of a year's subscription each. If you know of some easy way to do a certain kind of work or any valuable point about housework, arrangement of furniture, making of clothing, care of children, etc., etc., tell it for the benefit of our women readers. If you do not feel that you can write it up suitably, give us the facts and we will arrange them. It is information—practical points, that we want.

NO. 5.—GARDEN POINTS.

FIRST PRIZE \$5.00. SECOND PRIZE \$2.50. Third Prize \$1.50; and 25 additional prizes of a year's subscription each. Perhaps you have made a great success of some particular thing in your garden this year, tell us about it. Tell it in as few words as possible. We give the prizes for the best and most helpful information.

NO. 6.—POULTRY HELPS.

FIRST PRIZE \$5.00. SECOND PRIZE \$2.50. Third Prize \$1.50 and 25 additional prizes of a year's subscription each. If you know some feature of poultry keeping or raising which would be helpful to our readers, write it out and send it in. Tell it briefly and plainly. It may treat of any feature of the business.

NO. 7.—POETRY.

FIRST PRIZE \$5.00. SECOND PRIZE \$2.50. Third Prize \$1.50 and 25 additional prizes of a year's subscription each. Poems must not be longer than seven verses of eight lines each, short ones are preferred. May be on any subject suitable for the magazine.

NO. 8.—PHOTOGRAPHS.

FIRST PRIZE \$5.00. SECOND PRIZE \$2.50. Third Prize \$1.50 and 25 additional prizes of a year's subscription each. Photographs must be those taken by amateurs and may be of any subject either out of doors or inside, if suitable for publication in the magazine. Write name and address on back of photograph and if you wish it returned send postage for that purpose.

DIRECTIONS. Manuscript must be plainly written and on one side of paper only. Your letter must be addressed to PRIZE DEPARTMENT, VICK'S FAMILY MAGAZINE, 62 STATE ST., ROCHESTER, N. Y., and the number of the contest plainly marked on the outside of the envelope. At the top of the first page of MSS. must appear the author's name and address, also number of words. If you desire MSS. returned if not successful in winning a prize, sufficient postage must be enclosed for its return. MSS. should be sent in as soon as possible to give time to review carefully.

The contest will close March 25, 1904.

CONDITIONS. We reserve the right to buy at our regular cash rates any MSS. submitted. We desire only practical and helpful matter submitted, and to avoid mere trifles entering the contest we have made it a condition that all entering the contest must enclose 50 cents for a subscription to the magazine either for themselves or another person. Those desiring to submit more than one article may submit three for every two subscriptions sent. A three-year subscription at our special rate of \$1.00 will be counted as two yearly subscriptions. All conditions are plainly given in this announcement and we cannot enter into correspondence with those desiring to enter the contest.

MOTHERS' PROBLEMS

Every mother knows that happiness or misery—success or failure for her little one, depends upon the knowledge and sympathy she brings into the task of bringing it up.

The American Mother

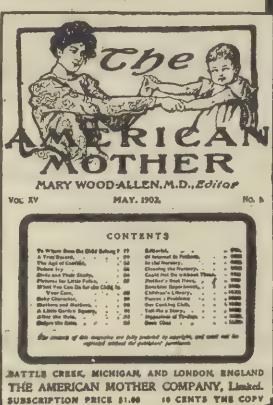
Is a monthly magazine devoted to raising the standards of home life and motherhood. Its 68 pages are full of help for the mother, not alone regarding the baby, but all other matters pertaining to the home and its management.

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It is edited by a mother—Mary Wood-Allen, a woman of wide experience in councils of national breadth in matters pertaining to Social Purity and Home Culture.

You will enjoy seeing a sample copy of THE AMERICAN MOTHER—we will enjoy sending it to you. One Dollar pays for a year's subscription.

THE AMERICAN MOTHER CO., LTD.
Box 15
BATTLE CREEK,
MICHIGAN.



BRIGHT EYED CIRCLE.

(Continued from page eleven.)

colored birds alone will repay you for sending your name on a postal to me. A department, with puzzles and all, for children will please you; and I notice how many boys and young men, read it and write of facts seen by them. I wish you would sow sunflower seeds for the birds and notice whether they seem queerly affected like the goldfinch described by one boy. Farmers feed the sunflower to fowls and cattle.

Aunt Stella is delighted over the answers so far received to our unfinished story of Sammie's New Year Resolutions. Let me specially praise Laura M. Latta, who wrote a story ending to mine. Also Cora Messinger whose sharp eye spied out a long list for poor Sammie.

Ah! that bracelet, girls! It is perfectly lovely, too sweet for anything! And the other prizes—if you wish to have any chance this time hurry! Get out that January Vick's and study over poor Sammie who felt life a mere burden when he thought of not bothering his teachers. And teasing girls! Go ahead girls; here is your chance to show what those dreadful boys are. Laura must have a brother or else she has read of some original powers of mischief. But wait, boys, wait. Your time will come, then! Now girls hurry along; but boys are welcome, too, for a boy is always a sharp judge.

SPENDING THE DAY.

Florie Davis came to spend the day with me and now she has gone home crying cross. I don't care; it isn't my fault. Sometimes she is real nice and will play anything I want, but when she is visiting she is mostly selfish and just horrid. But then, she is about the only girl there is for me to play with while I am staying here at grandma's. Florie is at her gand's too; she lives there all the time with her mother, since her father died. She is only nine but I'll be ten next month, when papa and mamma get back. How sorry she'll be when she sees the presents they are sure to bring—and the candy—that she wasn't always willing to do as I wanted her to!

When Florie first came this morning we played "wolves" in the barn loft. You know the big sleigh is up there for the summer and just tons and tons of hay. It's half dark and you hear queer rustly noises, and it's sort of scary and nice. We made believe it was winter in Canada and we had a long, long way to go, and just at night we came to a black forest with snow so deep our horses could hardly drag the sleigh. Then we heard wolves in the distance coming nearer and nearer. We hugged our children closer and called to the tired horses: "Faster! Oh, faster!"

It was exciting, I tell you! Florie got really frightened by and by and I had to cover her up in the bottom of the sleigh, but it got rather smothery; and she raised her head just as I said: "They are on us, oh! I see their glaring green eyes!" and such an awful shriek as she gave, for there, sure enough, were two flaming green eyes, staring right at us over the hay—no, the snowdrift, I mean. So I told Florie to get out and see what it was. It was on her side of the sleigh, and besides, I was driver and couldn't be expected to, of course; but she was real silly about it and wouldn't, until I said: "Fraid-cat!" then she said: "I'm not, but you are!" and jumped straight for those eyes. And next minute screamed: "Oh, the lovely kittens!" I took only three and told Florie she could have the other; but she said I had all the pretty ones, and I ought to let her choose—as if I would, when they were my cat's kittens! So I just told her she couldn't have any.

(Concluded on page thirty.)

Clubbing Offers.

Publishers everywhere admit that the VICK CLUBBING OFFERS are the most liberal made by any reliable house this season. Order all your periodicals of us; we can save you money. If you do not find what you want in this list write us for rates.

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Vick Publishing Company
ROCHESTER, N. Y.

VICK'S
FAMILY MAGAZINE
February, 1903

Published by VICK PUBLISHING COMPANY.

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Discontinuances: Any subscriber wishing to stop the magazine must notify the publishers and pay up all arrears, otherwise he is responsible for payment as long as it is sent.

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Please Notice. If this paragraph is marked, it is to notify you that your subscription expires with this issue. Let us have your renewal at our special rate of three years for \$1.00. We are confident you will be pleased with Vick's in the future. As it is our custom to continue sending the magazine to all subscribers until ordered discontinued, you will still receive it regularly, but we hope to receive your renewal fee by return mail.

Special Notice. This magazine is not connected in any way with any seed house. Be sure to address all correspondence to the Vick Publishing Company.

Advertising. Our magazine is recognized as one of the most profitable for general advertising. Guaranteed circulation 60,000. Rates 25¢ an agate line. Seven average words make a line. Fourteen agate lines make an inch. The Magazine goes to press on the 20th of each month.

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DANSVILLE, N. Y. 62 STATE ST. ROCHESTER, N. Y.

Entered as second-class matter at the Dansville, N. Y., Post Office.

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It is always good to know if only in passing, a charming human being; it refreshes one like flowers and woods and clear brooks.—George Eliot.

I think the magazine is first class: my little grandchildren are anxious to have me renew. I send \$1.00 for three years subscription—Mrs. W. D., East Otto, N. Y.

Those owning only a few acres of land can profitably engage in fruit-growing, by keeping, and raising early vegetables and poultry for market. If properly managed, these occupations need not interfere with each other, but be mutually helpful.

By chance we received a copy of your valuable magazine, and will lose no time in sending a subscription. I never had a chance to see it before and was very much pleased with it.—S. C., Iowa Falls, Iowa.

If you live in the city or village and have only a small lot, do not despair. You can keep a few hens, raise a lot of vegetables and have many flowers, if you will utilize the ground which you have to the best advantage. If you will read Vick's regularly you will get an inspiration that will surely lead you to success along all these lines. Read the article on poultry keeping in the city in the poultry department this month. You will find just such valuable and practical information in that department each month. John Elliott Morse gives as valuable points on gardening in his department. He is one of the best writers in America on this subject. Our March issue will be a special garden and fruit number and will be worth all that we ask for a year's subscription to any one who has a garden or fruit trees.

The January number of Vick's Magazine is good all through but I was particularly interested in the article "Bright Berries of Autumn and Winter." I hope many in their spring planting will profit by the suggestions therein. I was glad to see the Snowberry receive honorable mention.—M. D. C., Canandaigua, N. Y.

What are you raising on your ground? The same crops which your father raised, the same varieties etc? If you are try some new variety this year and note results. Consider also the matter of making a specialty of some one thing. Perhaps raspberries, strawberries or certain kinds of fruits or vegetables are scarce in your locality. You may have a piece of land just suited to the required crop. Determine the crop you are to raise, then get all the information possible on the subject. The catalogues of seed houses and nurserymen who advertise with us will give you much valuable information, send for these catalogues and study them. Hubbard squashes of good quality are usually hard to find in city and village markets and command good prices. They are sometimes difficult to raise but by giving them special care you should be able to make a nice income from a small piece of ground.

I am greatly pleased with your magazine and send \$1.00 in payment for a three years' additional subscription. Such a publication cannot but make life brighter for every woman.—Mrs. I. M. B., Keweenaw, Ill.

The composition and nutritive value of a number of cereal breakfast foods, in proportion to the cost, are reported in a bulletin of the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station. According to the report, "All the cereal foods examined were good articles and the average prices as a rule are not exorbitant. On the contrary, when compared with the meats and vegetables, the most of them must be classed as very economical foods. The prices are exceedingly variable, and so far as ordinary chemical analysis shows, furnish no measure of the value of the goods. On the other hand, while their comparative digestibility has not yet been well worked out, there can be no doubt that the attempts to increase the digestibility of some of these goods by special treatment has been successful, and persons of weak digestion

will find it to their advantage to base their selection upon other data than that here given. Fortunately the invalids are still in the minority, and the average consumer who experiences difficulty with any of these foods is not justified in paying twenty cents per pound for a cereal preparation, when another that will serve his purpose exactly as well can be had at five or six cents."

Most people keep hens for the profit which they bring, either in the way of eggs or of the table, but, incidentally, they sometimes furnish considerable amusement and entertainment. A little group of White Leghorns owned here in Rochester have had no particular training, but every morning they gravely march in single file from their domicile to the kitchen door, always announcing their arrival by musical notes. If their mistress does not at once respond by giving them their breakfast, they raise their notes to much louder tone. When they seem to suspect that she has not yet risen, they say emphatically: "Come, come, come!" They remain around the door until they have food and water, then contentedly go back to their house, repeating their visit again at noon for dinner and before dark for supper. Should any one but their mistress appear at the door, they quickly recognize the difference, and talk over the matter in discontented tones, evidently saying very unflattering things about the party in question. Of course, in a financial way, they are not very profitable, especially as they seem to be afraid of swamping the market when eggs are scarce and high, but their owner thinks she gets enough entertainment out of them to pay for their keeping.

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Get two others to subscribe for three years and send us the \$2.00 for their subscriptions and we will place you on our list for three years for your trouble.

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and send the names and the money to

Vick Publishing Co.,

THROUGH FIELDS AND WOOD-LANDS.

(Continued from page six.)

owls, but as they are nocturnal birds it is hard to learn the different varieties, and their notes, like the wavering cry of the Little Screech Owl, are more familiar than their appearance. The eggs of owls are very much rounder than the eggs of our small singing birds, are always white, and unmarked. Owls feed on small animals and birds, swallowing them whole, and ejecting the bones, feathers or hair in little pellets or rolls. I have seen such pellets contain the skull, feet, feathers and bones of a bird presumably a sparrow. Kingfishers get rid of the bones of the fishes they eat in the same way. They have a strange way of lining their underground home with these prickly pellets, which would prove quite instruments of torture one would think to the little naked birds which fill the nest.

DRESSING THE LITTLE BOY.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

The mother who has two or three small boys to clothe will usually look well to the cost and quality of every garment. Cheap, ready-made suits are never satisfactory, for the material is not good, and after wearing them a few times the buttons come off and the seams rip. After trying a few of them, the economical housewife usually

concludes that it is better in every way to make them at home. Remnants of cloth which may be obtained from the tailor or dry goods store at a great reduction from the regular price can be used to advantage in making boys' suits, and with the aid of nicely fitting patterns which may be purchased for a trifle, the task is not a difficult one. Or a pattern may be obtained by ripping a tailor made suit, pressing the pieces smoothly, and cutting one by them. When partly worn suits of the father, uncle or other member of the family, are at your disposal, it is not usually necessary to buy new material for any except his Sunday suits, for after the worn parts are discarded, there is usually enough good material in them to make a suit for a little boy. As the material is usually faded, it is best to dye it some pretty dark color or black, using diamond dye for wool if the material is all wool, or the dye for cotton if it is mixture.

There is no difficulty about the fashions, for the styles for boys are more permanent than those for their sisters. For those three or four years of age there are the Eton jackets, blouse and knee pants. Boys six or eight years old wear double-breasted coats, knee pants and waists or shirts. Their overcoats are very much like those made for men, double-breasted with rolling collar and deep pocket, in which the little hands are sure to

find refuge from the winter winds. Heavy cloth is made without lining, but the light weight material is lined to make it warm enough. The Mother Hubbard wrapper is popular for the very small boy made of eiderdown, ladies cloth and other suitable materials trimmed with fur, braid or ribbon. They are lined throughout.

My little boy needed new waists for winter, and as he objects to wearing a coat when it is possible to get along without it, I thought it best to make his waists of warm material. So I washed some pieces of a heavy woolen dress skirt and dyed them a pretty navy blue with diamond dye. The new waist is made with three box plaits in the back and three narrow tucks on each side of the closing in front. A strip of drilling is sewed under the material at the waist line, making it strong enough to sew the buttons on. The neck is finished with a round turn over collar, and the lower edge of the sleeves is gathered into narrow cuffs. The second waist was made of the best parts of a black woolen shirt of his papa's. As it had always been worn with a coat and vest, the neck and front of the shirt were badly worn, while the remainder was good. A narrow feather stitching of yellow embroidery silk was used around the edge of the collar and cuffs, and on each side of the button holes in front. The remainder of the waist was plain.

MARY.

THE LATEST DAINTY FAD.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

A constant reader of this interesting magazine, says she is shut in through the winter months and is desirous of knowing something in regard to fancy work. She wishes to know if she can buy the dainty monograms that so many embroideries themselves, or if the initial letters and crests etc., can be applied by basting on the handkerchiefs, towels, etc., and stitched by hand. She says her eyes are weak and she cannot use them long at a time without injury.

I will advise by all means to buy your initial letter and put it on neatly which has exactly the same effect as embroidering it. They are not expensive and you can buy lovely monograms and crests. Quite a number of ladies buy them and add to their dainty lingerie.

Yes, they will wash quite as well and do not rough up if stitched very closely and neatly. You had better always wash such pieces yourself. I wash my sheer cambric handkerchiefs in a bowl of soft rain water adding a teaspoonful of gold-dust washing powder, and rinse in warm rain water and while wet I place them on my windowpanes or mirror and leave there until quite dry, then peel them off and fold and put in a perfumed box. They are dainty enough for a princess.

S. J. H.

NOVELTIES FOR 1903

Every reader of VICK'S MAGAZINE will, we are sure, be interested in these grand novelties which are the best of the season, and at the request of the publishers we are giving VICK'S readers the first chance.

Gold and Silver Flower.

A grand novelty from New South Wales which has never before been offered in the United States and cannot be obtained elsewhere. The flowers are about the size of a silver dollar, intensely double and pure silver white with a center of bright gold, thus giving it the appearance of a new silver dollar with a five dollar gold piece laid in the center which, at a few feet distance is quite startling. The bush is literally covered with these flowers, and they not only retain their beauty like other flowers when kept in vases, but they are really an everlasting and look just as pretty during the winter when dry, as when picked fresh from the plants. Grows readily from seed. Price 25 cts. per pkt., but if you will send us, before March 15th, the address of three persons who cultivate flowers and two 2-cent stamps we will send you a full sized packet to pay for your trouble.



Mexican Burning Bush.

Thousands of persons who visited our trial grounds have been greatly impressed with the peculiar beauty of this new plant which is known botanically as Kochia. Grows quickly from seed in round tree-like form. Color beautiful light green all through the hot summer months, but early in September the plants become covered with myriads of minute scarlet flowers, thus making it a veritable ball of fire. Unequalled for borders and hedges. Pkt. 10 cts.

Jonah's Gourd

A wonderfully rapid growing vine from Palestine known there by the above name and believed to be the vine which sheltered the Prophet. (See Jonah IV-6.) It grows with wonderful rapidity to a height of 50 to 60 feet. Leaves large, flowers pure white two or three inches in diameter and fruits of immense length and curiously ornamented. All flower lovers will want to try Jonah's Gourd. Per pkt. of 6 seeds 10 cts.; 3 pkts. for 25 cts.

\$20.00 Prize. We offer a cash prize of \$20.00 in gold for the longest gourd grown this year from this seed. Anyone purchasing direct from us may compete. Stock of seed is limited however, so do not fail to order.



Good Venture Geranium.

Yes, you can easily grow geraniums from seed and all the new varieties are originated in this way. The Good Venture is the finest strain of geraniums now on the market. Seed was saved from large particularly fine flowers which have been hybridized to produce choice sorts. Flowers are of all shades of crimson, scarlet, salmon, rose, white, etc., with beautiful shadings and edgings. Full directions for culture sent with each package. Per pkt. 10 cts.

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FRUIT NOTES

By Prof. H. E. VanDeman.

Suggestions for February.

This is the time to study the nursery catalogues and see what is best to purchase. Prove every statement in them by the reports of the State and National horticultural societies. Not that many of them are not true, but there are some that are apt to be doubtful, to say the least. Be sure that you buy only from those who are real nurserymen and not simply dealers, as some of those are who get out flaming catalogues. And buy of those who you are confident thoroughly fumigate their stock.

Select the fruits that are really good in quality. We have too many such as the Ben Davis apple and Kieffer pear. Even the Alberta peach is not so good as many of our old standards, such as early Barnard, Oldmixon Free and Heath Cling. Carman is one of the newer ones of high quality and good character generally.

During mild weather the pruning of grapevines is one of the things that should be done. The vineyardists know just how to do this work but the town and small country gardener is apt to know far too little about it. While the grapevines that we grow in the eastern and central states need considerable heading back it is not true that the more they are cut the more they will bear. Leave bearing canes two feet long, or even more in some cases, when the vines are strong and vigorous. But if they are only doing moderately well leave less bearing wood. Spread the pruned wood over the trellis or arbor so that there are no two bearing branches nearer than a foot apart. Use common sense instead of fancy notions as to the exact style in which work is to be done.

Spraying for Profit.

A request has been made that I prepare something about spraying fruit trees, but as this is so large a subject I will only treat a part of it at this time.

There are two remedies that keep in check the larger part of the diseases and insect enemies of fruits and nearly all other crops. They are sulphate of copper and arsenic. Nearly all of the preparations for spraying contain one or both of these poisons in some form. The sulphate of copper kills the germs of the fungus plants, which in their marvelous abundance and variety are known as molds, mildews, rusts, cankers, etc. That arsenic is poison to animal life

when taken internally we all know, and it is this poisonous effect that we endeavor to bring about upon insect life when we use it in solutions which are applied to the foliage or fruit that is being destroyed. All of the preparations or drugs that we buy, such as Paris green, London purple, green arsenoid, arsenate of lead and several others are partly composed of arsenic, and their value as insecticides lies in the proportion of this poison that they contain.

Our idea with both remedies is to get them spread over the trees and plants in the most complete and yet the cheapest way. Whatever form will meet these requirements with the least danger to the vegetation and the greatest to the enemies, and whatever spray machine will do the work the best and the cheapest are those for us to use. An intelligent understanding of these points ought to help us in our warfare upon the tiny but mighty host of enemies that we have to fight in producing our crops.

The Copper Remedies.

The fungus diseases which prey on trees and smaller vegetation usually pass their dormant or resting stage in the decayed and mummified fruits, in dead leaves, on the bark and sometimes in the living tissues. When the proper conditions of heat and moisture, which are essential to their propagation, are brought about by the coming of springtime or the warmer weather of the summer, as the case may be, if we have the minutest particle of sulphate of copper where it can come in contact with the spores or germs from which the destructive fungi come, they will die.

It has been found that the pure sulphate of copper will kill plant life in its tender forms, such as leaves and growing twigs, therefore some means of preventing this had to be found. It happened that along with the discovery of the effects of the copper sulphate also came the knowledge that lime would prevent its caustic effects. Bordeaux mixture was an accidental discovery near Bordeaux, France. It is almost a sovereign remedy for fungus troubles. It is very cheaply and easily made. There are thousands of publications that tell how to both make and apply it, but for the benefit of those who may not have them at hand I will give them here.

Bordeaux Mixture—Procure the best of fresh, unslaked stone lime and a quantity of copper sulphate. In a

tight barrel, or other vessel put six (some say four) pounds of the lime and sprinkle water over it but do not drench it. Cover it with an old cloth to keep in the steam. As it slakes sprinkle on more water and keep covered until the lime is a fine dry powder like flour. This is very important, as submerging the lime in water or any other improper, hasty way of slaking it will not reduce it to fine particles. After this is done water should be added to make a liquid and this should be strained to take out any coarse particles that may clog the spraying machine. Put this in a fifty gallon barrel and fill it half full of water, stirring it thoroughly.

In another wooden vessel put twenty-five gallons of water. Put six pounds of copper sulphate in a coarse sack and suspend it in the water, but near the surface, until it is completely dissolved. If the water is hot it will dissolve more quickly than if it is cold. Then pour this latter into the barrel with the lime water and the mixture is ready for use. If all the fifty gallons is not needed at once the two liquids should be kept separate and mixed and used as needed; for the complete mixture injures by standing a long time. The dilution before mixing is also a very important point.

Simple Copper Solution.—A simple solution of copper sulphate in water is good for spraying on the trees and vines when there is no foliage on them. It will kill many of the resting spores that may be lodged on the branches and in the crevices of the bark. But it will easily wash off, and must never be applied during the growing season.

(Continued on page eighteen.)

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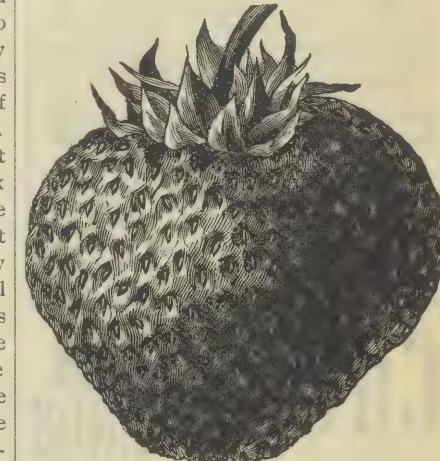
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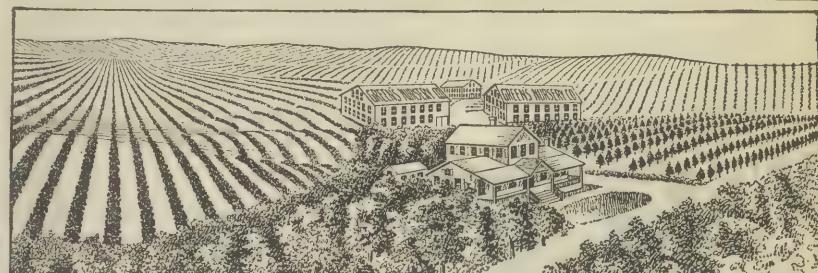
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FRUIT NOTES.

(Continued from page seventeen.)

The Arsenical Remedies.

Paris green and London purple have long been in use as insecticides and they are good, but there are better and cheaper forms of arsenic for this purpose. Arsenate of lead is one of the best. It is not very costly and has the peculiar quality of sticking to the foliage wonderfully. There are directions for using it on the packages. Paragrene is also good and directions go with it for its use, likewise. Common white arsenic prepared with salsoda is also one of the best and cheapest insect poisons. Procure one pound of white arsenic and three pounds of lump salsoda. Put them in two gallons of water and boil steadily for fifteen minutes or more, until they are perfectly dissolved. One quart of this liquid will poison fifty gallons of water, and it will not settle as does Paris green. But it will injure the foliage if used without lime in the water. One pound of lime is sufficient in the fifty gallons, but the better way is to put the arsenic into Bordeaux mixture, thus requiring no other preparation of lime and preparing a doubly valuable mixture. It will then kill both the insects and fungi.

How and When to Spray.

If it is well fixed in the mind that copper sulphate will kill most fungi, and arsenic about all biting insects that can be induced to eat it, the way to the proper application of these preventives and remedies is quite clear. Spraying with the simple copper solution or with Bordeaux mixture before the buds start is a good preventive measure. Just as they begin to open a combination of the copper and arsenic preparations should be put on in the most thorough manner. This will kill the germs of Peach Leaf Curl, some other fungus spores and many of the bud eating insects. It is a good preventive against the troubles of all the orchard fruits and the grapes and berries too. When the apple, pear and quince trees are nearly ready to open their blossoms they should have another spraying of the combined mixture just mentioned. After they are well out of bloom a third spraying of the same kind will kill a large part of the codling moth larva in the fruit.

Grape vines should have at least one good spraying of the combined mixture soon after the fruit is well started to growing to keep down the Black Rot, and leaf eating and rolling insects.

If all these matters are given close and prompt attention, there will be a profit of more than 1,000 per cent on the money, time and labor expended.

H. E. VanDeman.

Experience with Some New Apples.

Let me call the attention of apple growers to half a dozen new sorts. Two years ago I was favored with a box of small or medium apples, of a golden color, slightly splashed with light red. They were of uniform size and flattened about like the Rhode Island Greening. They had been roughly handled, but bruises did not decay, and I had them in use until April. The apple proved to be most delicious in quality, juicy, richly flavored, leaving an aromatic taste that lingered in your mouth. It was Stuart's Golden. Since that I have planted two of the trees, and freely grafted it. I consider it one of the best apples that I have ever known.

Another apple of most extraordinary quality comes to me from Missouri. It is rightly called Delicious. In size it ranks about with Ben Davis, is a rich yellow overlaid with crimson, and the flesh is a golden clear through. Among the more recent new varieties, that are getting some reputation, not one surpasses McIntosh Red. I consider this one of the finest acquisitions ever made to dessert apples. In shape it is flattened about like Mother apple; is rich yellow, heavily overlaid with richest crimson. I have no tree that in bearing looks more beautiful than a McIntosh. In quality it is superb. It is a seedling of the Fameuse.

Another seedling of this family is the Princess Louise. A well selected sample of this variety is as good as it is beautiful, and beautiful as it is good. It ripens about with Fameuse, and must be picked early from the trees. It is a bright yellow, with a fresh carmine cheek. My only trouble is that it is a particular favorite of the Trypeta or apple worm. I have been allowed to sample two other varieties from the Ozark region, the Black Ben Davis and the Champion. Both of these are magnificent looking apples—the deepest gold, almost entirely overlaid with crimson. In quality they simply rank as really good—not quite best. There is not the least resemblance between Black Ben Davis and Ben Davis; and there is no reason why the name should mix the two apples together. For market varieties none of our newer sorts will surpass these two, as their keeping qualities are equal to their beauty. York Imperial is doing admirably with me, only that it is peculiarly subject to scab. This and the Mother were with me total failures this year.

A. P. Powell, in Amer. Agriculturist.

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In the Garden

CONDUCTED BY JOHN ELLIOT MORSE.

Side Lines.

Most of our readers know by this time that my affections are very strongly set upon the garden, its work and belongings. Yet I am pretty sure that I am not altogether "garden mad"—just enthusiastic, and very anxious to have all our folks the same way inclined. Now there are other kinds of work very, very interesting of themselves, and they also, have the advantage of combining very nicely with the garden work as side lines, and prove a help rather than a hindrance.

In the December number, I had occasion to speak of our Partridge Cochin family, and as this number is to be chiefly devoted to the poultry interests, I may be pardoned if I also, cast my "mite into the treasury." No enterprise with which I am acquainted joins on to the garden work more harmoniously and helpful than does the poultry yard. Whether

merely in the sense of a family supply or as applied in the wider range of a money-maker it is profitable. Now the hen left to her own sweet will is truly an "unruly member," and "scatters consternation like a yaller jackets nest," to the gardener's hopes and plans. But the business hen, well organized and under proper control, is quite another thing. There are times of year when in, and about the garden they are fully worth

their price as insect and weed seed destroyers, and the added fertility of a flock of hens is no small item in the garden assets. Then too, there is always much garden waste that will be eagerly and profitably devoured by the hens. While wide range for fowls is very desirable, they may still with proper care, be managed very profitably in comparatively close quarters. Thus there is many a home with even small surroundings, where a well managed poultry yard, will not only add much to the table supply but also to the pin money side of the question. To me, accustomed to gathering the daily egg supply from the nest, it requires very little argument to prove the superiority of that product over the one gathered fresh(?) from the store. Finally my brethren, and sisters too, be not weary in well doing, but give the hens a fair chance to be helpful to you, and see if they will not prove worthy of your earnest and careful efforts.

Now I side-tracked on to the poultry question just to speak a good word for the hens, for I like them and also like what they bring to us when we treat them as hens ought to be treated. Be kind and merciful in your care and

treatment of them, and they will prove friends worth having, but once grow lax and over indulgent as to family government and discipline, and the gardener's hopes will be laid low. But lest our folks think I am taking too long a vacation and wandering too far away, I must get back home and into the garden, and our next step is making

The Hot Bed.

Now if all of us were rich and had abundance of this world's goods, then we might all of us have green houses. But, (fortunately I think,) we are not, and so must be content to do the next best thing. The hot bed is the next alternative, and to really successful gardening, is about what the musket is to the soldier. My desire is, to make the construction so plain and inexpensive that all of us may have one this year; and that without the aid of any carpenter or professional florist.

There are various methods of construction from the excavation or pit, two or more feet in depth, walled up with brick or planks, to the simple box set above ground and tilted on one side for the slant to the sash. Some are made of dressed lumber, painted and so arranged that they may be taken down and stored away; others are roughly constructed with the sole object of gaining maximum results at minimum outlay. My object is to interest the people to try for the results; and whether by the longer or shorter route, they themselves are to determine. If only one or two sashes can be used or afforded this year, it will be much better than none at all, and we hope that even the small effort will lead to a greater one next year. A convenient size of sash, is three feet two inches by five feet six inches, and they may be obtained at almost any sash and blind factory. The above size is by no means to be understood as a hard and fast rule; simply a convenient basis for calculation. With the sashes on hand, the balance of the work can all be done right at home by any man or handy boy. My wife has assisted much at such work, and thinks she is entirely competent to build and manage a hot bed from start to finish. I too, rather think she is.

The above sized sash will require four rows of 8x10 glass six and a half panes to the row, or twenty-six panes in all, and four or five pounds of putty. Before glazing or setting the glass, the sash should be painted with white lead and yellow ochre equal parts by weight, and raw linseed oil; about one and a half pounds of the former

(Continued on page 100)

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Compressed Air Sprayers. One, two and four gallon sizes. Heavy galvanized iron, brass nozzles, nicely painted. For gardens, orchards, lawns, stables, chicken-houses, etc. No continuous pumping. Compressed air device sprays automatically. Can be operated by a boy. Send \$1.00 for sample. Big money for agents. **B. D. SMITH & Co., Utica, N. Y., U. S. A.**

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BARGAIN—100 Good, White Envelopes, size 4 by 6 1/4, with your name and address neatly printed in corner, only 30 cents postpaid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Address **C. F. CLARKE, Vt., LeRoy, N. Y.**

\$2,000 For \$1.00. Mail order dealers and those who want to try the business. Here is a chance to start at a small cost. Am at the head of a Medical Mail Order Business now, but will send you a plan whereby you can with a little effort clean up a nice round sum every year at a small cost to start. Good now or next year, worth \$100 to you any time. No time to answer a lot of questions. If interested, send a (One Dollar Bill) and full instructions will be sent. Address **NON M. CURE CO., Bridgeport, Conn.**

ANGEL'S WHISPER Beautiful Large Colored Picture, size 16x22, represents an Angel bending over a cradle, containing a sleeping child. A charming picture. Agents delighted. Sells everywhere. Worth 50c. Sample 25c; 9 for \$1.00, post paid. Beautiful frames \$1.00 each, \$10 doz. **J. LEE, Omaha Bldg., CHICAGO, ILLS.**



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Mail Us But Fifty Cents and we will send you our famous Jewelry Set, consisting of 1 ladies sash pin, brooch and stick pin. Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded.

CHANDLER MFG. CO., Dept. F, Box 223 Pawtucket, R. I.

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Stamped Satin, assorted colors in 9 square inch blocks, for Fancy Work, Quilts, Sofa Cushions, etc. Each stamped with a neat and graceful design to be worked in silk. 10 cents per package, postpaid. One handsome block of satin sent free with every package. Address E. A. STRONG, Dept. B, 427 221st St., San Francisco, California.

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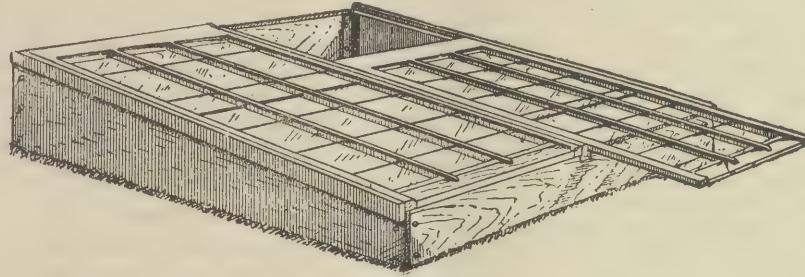
EVERY LADY should have our skirt and waist supporter. Sample and 350 page illustrated catalogue for 30c. MAMMOTH SUPPLY HOUSE, Dept. 23, 4815 Champlain Ave., Chicago.

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BIG BARGAIN! Six 4-inch Doilies, 15c. Best Embroidery Silk, 15 skeins, assorted colors, 12c. Up-to-date Catalogue, all postage, 25c. Everybody should take advantage of this offer. W. T. R. KELLY, Franklin, Neb.

(combined) to a quart of the the lat- ter. The above will be better than clear white lead and last longer for out-of-door work. The painting for the first coat should be done thoroughly well, as it is the oil that the wood requires rather than the filler. Then too, the putty must also have a body other than bare wood, else it will not adhere well. After this first coat is well set, then the glazing is in order. In laying the glass, begin at the lower or level end of the sash, lapping the first glass not less than a half inch on to the level sash rail. Tack this glass firmly with glazier's zinc points or small brads, two or three at the lower end of the pane to prevent slipping out of place. Lay the glass crowning side up, and lap back onto the last one laid fully a quarter of an inch. I prefer more rather than less. Be sure that every pane fits closely down to the bed, and see that they are firmly fastened in place with the points of zinc. Use the putty as soft as possible, as when once set, it adheres much better than when applied too hard or dry. When

will have when completed. The end posts should sit in one inch from the ends of boards. A board twelve inches wide and six feet six inches long, sawed cornerwise from end to end, will make the slanting end pieces and the balance of end boards may be of any desired width, so that the ends are filled within four inches of bottom of posts same as the sides. Set up the sides, and nail in the end boards which will give exact length outside measure, to fit the given width and number of sash. The bed when set up will be four inches above the ground which allows the posts to be settled into the ground somewhat, and also gives more manure space, without excavating, or using more lumber. Cut three strips seven inch by three stuff, as long as the bed is wide for rafters or sash supports. These are let into the sides of the bed even with the top, and at such distances apart that the edges of two sash will rest side to side upon each support. Nail a strip of the same at the outer side of each end of the bed, also a strip along the lower side. All



A SENSIBLE HOT BED.

the putty is well set, apply two more coats at least, of the paint, same as first coat only five to six pounds of the lead and ochre to the quart of oil. Each sash, at present high prices will cost upwards of \$2.00 exclusive of the labor. Two sash of above width will cover a bed six feet four inches in length outside measure.

Constructing the Bed.

The length of bed will of course, depend upon the number of sash used; but for present purposes we will suppose that four are used for one bed, which will give twelve feet eight inches outside measure, which must always be considered. This plan will also be for inch lumber instead of plank which would double the cost, but either may be used. The sides should be respectively twelve and eighteen inches high. Cut three posts of 2x4, twenty-two inches long, and three posts of same material sixteen inches long. Nail the boards flush with the top of posts, which should have the same slant as the top of bed

to project one inch above the top. These are to prevent the sash from slipping or blowing off in storms. The bed is now complete and ready for filling, which directions must go over until next number.

A Cheaper Bed.

A bed still cheaper and more easily made, and also much in use by extensive growers, may be made as follows: Cut all the posts twelve inches long and nail the side boards on allowing them to project one inch over the end posts. Then nail in the end boards which gives a level top when set up. When the bed is set up ready to fill, one side is tilted resting the posts on blocks or bricks, which gives the necessary slant to carry off the water, when the sash are placed on. This bed is easily constructed and gives very satisfactory results; but of course, is not a "thing of beauty" etc., like the more costly ones. The side strips to hold the sash in place, as also the sash supports are put on as described

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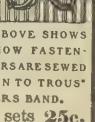
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MOTHER LIKES BABY to be well clothed in dainty little garments. It is seldom possible to obtain satisfactory articles in this line outside the large cities, so ladies needing such goods are invited to write me and secure the best that skill and taste can procure [made or unmade] at the very least cost. Enclose stamp. Mrs. B. F. Stevens, Infant Outfit Specialist, Waltham, Mass.

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SEND 10 cents. Washington SHOE stickpin, perfect design, both sex. Parker, 1237 Arch, Philadelphia.

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"ANGEL'S WHISPER," beautiful, large, colored picture. Sells quickly at 25c. Sample 12c. 9 for \$1.00. Send now. Catalogue free. **DERR SUPPLY CO.**, 1237 A, Herkimer St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

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ONE full year's subscription to McClure's, Success, Delinquer, Ladies' Home Journal, Judge's Library, or your choice of 100 equally choice magazines. **FOR 10 CENTS**. FREE. Write today and we will send you coupons to value of 25c FREE. Address **UNION SUBSCRIPTION AGENCY**, Chester, Pa.

It makes gold, silver, glass like new, And incidentally greenbacks for you.

THE PEARL is the finest polishing agent made, and housewives better send stamp for our special offer; it's a shining one. **Stevens Mfg. Co.**, Reading, Mass.

If you have any picture or photographs you wish to have copied, send them to us and they will be done right. Circulars on request.

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SOMETHING every housewife should have. Our improved Combination Dipper. Takes place of useful articles. Sent upon receipt of 25 cents. Write for our catalogue of useful novelties. A. Keller & Co., 723 W 22nd St., Chicago, Illinois.

for the other bed. When setting up ready for filling, the ground should be excavated five or six inches to allow greater depth of manure.

Cold Frames.

These may be made same as the hot beds; but require no bottom heat, they will not need to be filled with manure. They are very useful and almost indispensable to good work, and one really requires about double the space in cold frames that is required for hot beds. The expense of the cold frames may however, be very light by using other cover than glass.

Cloth Covers.

When constructing the cold frames, they may be made any desired width, but, the same outside measure as for width of hot beds will be found most convenient, as then the covers, whether of glass or otherwise, will be interchangeable.

For the cloth covered frames, take 1x2 inch strips; the length to correspond with width of bed. Cut the end pieces three feet long and halve the corners together, fastening with inch screws or wire lath nails clinched. For the center brace, cut a piece of the same stuff to fit snugly between the side pieces, and toe-nail to sides of frame. Take medium or heavy weight sheeting (preferably the latter), and stretch tightly over the frame, tacking closely along the outer edges of sides and ends. If the frames have been made of the given width, the cloth will stretch sufficiently to reach clear over and tack along the edges instead of on top which is objectionable.

Stretch tight and tack closely to prevent shrinking, then paint with three or four coats of the following mixture: two thoroughly beaten eggs to one pint of raw linseed oil. Keep the mixture well stirred while using, and allow one coat to dry before applying another. If the frames have been carefully made, they will stand almost any amount of rain, and answer every purpose for cold frames, give full directions for filling and management of beds, and from then

56 PIECES FREE!

Every person answering this advertisement can get a handsomely decorated set **ABSOLUTELY FREE**. We mean it. A straightforward, honest offer made by an old established and reliable house to advertise its business, for everybody to accept. Remember, every one can have their choice of a **Breakfast, Dinner or Tea Set**. Each set consists of 56 pieces, full size for family use. Name selection and decoration wanted—Blue, Brown, Pink, Green or Rococo. We will ask you to do us a slight favor in return. It will **COST YOU NO MONEY** and will take not over an hour's time; you will be put to no annoyance, inconvenience or trouble. All sets are carefully boxed and packed at our expense—and safe delivery is guaranteed. No one is barred out—we positively will not go back on this no matter what it costs us. Don't pay out your money for dishes when we give you your choice of such **beautiful ornated sets FREE**. Send at once your full name, post-office address and nearest **EXPRESS** or **FREIGHT OFFICE**; state which will reach you quickest. Address: **C. H. LEWIS**, Supply Agent, 1916 Park Avenue, New York, Dept. 48.

out, we shall hope to see the work go on, and for much of the hot bed work, will do equally as well as glass. Many depend upon them for all work, using no glass whatever. These covers can be made complete at a cost not to exceed twenty-five or thirty cents apiece cash outlay; and any who cannot afford the greater expense of glass will find them very satisfactory for both hot bed and cold frame. Being very light, they should be fastened to the beds with screw eyes at each end.

Timely Work.

All the above work can be done at any time during the winter and everything put in readiness for use when desired. In addition to this, a quantity of good manure should be secured, and stored where it can be forked over occasionally. It requires quite a quantity to fill in and bank up even one bed, and ample provision should be made in time so that there will be no lack. In the next number, we will

A bright energetic party wanted to act as local manager for an established specialty house. The duties of this position highly profitable and very congenial. Samples and particulars 10c silver.

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STAMMERING

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If the Nerves are Strong the Entire Body is Strong. You can Best Succeed in Life with Good Nerves.

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MAKES YOU YOUNG AGAIN. The Life for Wasted Energy. Not a Poisonous Drug that Stimulates, but a Permanent Restorative. **SWANKA FOOD** that Feeds the Nerves with the Life-Giving Power of

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That unseen element known as life's vigor. The great power of all activity and motion of the human structure that controls and operates every function, organ and muscle of the body; the great vital force of life itself. It makes the weak strong and the strong stronger; the sick get well and the well stay well gives better health, greater strength, more endurance; strengthens every muscle, renews every tissue and develops and invigorates every function; fills the veins with rich red blood; makes the appetite keen and digestion perfect; restores the sparkle to the eye, the bloom to the cheek, the spring to the step and makes the blood run warm with the fire of youthful vitality. The South American Saw Palmetto Berry is the best strength-giving tonic and vitalizer ever discovered for the rebuilding of men and women, restoring the perfect vigor of youth. Cures to stay cured—consumption, catarrh, torpid liver, kidney, bladder, prostate gland and stomach troubles. Wrecked nerves vitiate and corrupt the entire physical system; not an organ, tissue or fiber escapes its ravages. Get well and stay well. If life is worth living at all, it is worth living well. Write today; don't delay; tomorrow, in your present condition, susceptible to all dangerous disease, the door of hope may be forever closed against you. A three days' trial treatment will work wonders and will be sent free to any address.

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200 Egg Incubator

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The simplest, most perfect incubator made in the world. This is a new one at a remarkably low price. It is an enlargement of the famous

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Tells How to Succeed With Poultry A dollar bill will reach us safely if folded in heavy paper.

POULTRY KEEPER PUB. CO.,

Box 212, Quincy, Ill.

Poultry Department

Conducted by Vincent M. Couch.

Mr. Vincent M. Couch the eminent authority and writer on poultry matters will hereafter conduct this department. All articles not signed by others are from his pen.

Poultry Keeping with Village and City People.

"If I had the room I would keep a lot of fowls," is a remark which I hear very often. When a man says he would keep poultry if he had a good place, it means many times that he is not enough interested to make a place for them. There are a great many families in every village and city who have a few rods of spare ground, on which, with a very little trouble a dozen or more hens could be kept, and they would bring much pleasure as well as a profit to the owner.

"Where there is a will there is a way." We propose in the future to tell how best to carry this out, and we hope to interest thousands of readers of Vick's magazine in this line of poultry keeping. We shall use every effort to make all the details of the work so plain that if followed by the workers success will be the result. For mutual benefit we ask for an exchange of ideas and experience in poultry raising of yourself or some one whom you have known. Articles from those who are keeping poultry in a moderate way, are especially desired. Describe your experience and ideas in making nests, setting hens, arranging the interior of poultry houses and yards, preventing and curing diseases among all kinds of poultry, breeding and raising pigeons, Belgian hares and other pet stock; both for pleasure and profit. All reasonable questions connected with this department will be answered.

Experience of a City Man.

Recently I have been looking over some of the conditions under which village and city people keep poultry. The following information I got from a man who resides in the outskirts of a suburb of the great city of New York where he labors eight or nine hours per day in a shop. This man's poultry plant covers a space less than fifty by one hundred feet, and on this space stands his house and a small plot is taken for vegetables, so there is not a very extensive area left for the hens. But on this small piece of ground there is a nice and profitable little poultry business carried on. There is a small but well planned hen house, and on this piece of land, which is much smaller than the garden on the average farm, are five different yards and as many flocks of hens, White Leghorns and Rhode Island Reds. The number of fowls in each pen is, of course, not large. The yards are so arranged that each flock may be let out in a vacant yard alternately. There are so many pens of fowls that their turn to run outside comes only once in nearly a week, and

the outside space is so limited that even then they do not have much liberty, but they enjoy the little run and seem happy and contented. Frequently a flock is turned out for an hour or so, then driven back and another flock let out, and so on throughout the day, the wife of the owner attending to this chore during the day.

This man being a lover of poultry gives them the best of care and keeps only high class stock; the yards and houses are kept perfectly clean at all times. The roosts are well swept and sprayed with kerosene once, and sometimes twice a week. For litter he uses mostly leaves, gathered from his neighbors' yards in the fall, placed in bran sacks and stored in an out house to be used as needed through the cold weather. Supplying an abundance of material for the hens to work in, he considers of great importance, and never allows any of the rooms to be without a good bed of it on the floor. Great care is taken to feed the fowls so as to compel them to take exercise, as nearly all the eggs are sold for hatching purposes; and, notwithstanding small space for runs, I was informed that the percent of fertile eggs produced ran very high, and that as a rule they brought out strong, healthy chicks. A variety of grain is fed, wheat, oats, barley, buckwheat and cracked corn. Mashes are given three or four times a week, also some fresh ground bone. Green stuff in the shape of beets or cabbages, is given them every day in winter, and under this treatment the hens are kept in good laying condition all the time.

I was told that during the latter part of winter, through the spring and into the summer, nearly every egg went for hatching purposes at from \$1.00 to \$1.50 per dozen. Outside of the hatching season, they are quickly picked up by the neighbors for table use at a good figure. All this work is done mornings and evenings, and is the source of a nice little income. What this man has done for several years and is doing today, thousands of others can do. If you can not or do not wish to produce eggs for hatching, they can easily be sold to nearby customers for family use and always at a premium over the market prices.

Selecting a Breed.

We often see it stated that it is not so much the breed as the feed with the successful poultry raiser, and there can be no question but what this is true. The feed and care count for more towards making a success at poultry keeping than the breed. Yet, in starting a poultry plant whether on a large or a small scale, the

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selection of the particular breed best adapted to one's purpose is an important consideration, and the first question is, whether you are to engage in the business for pleasure or profit. If the former, then a choice of most any breed which may suit your fancy will be suitable. In selecting for this purpose there is a wide field from which to choose for either beauty or oddity.

If you are inclined to take up the work as a business, the following breeds may be named, each of which has a money-making quality, aside from a purely fancy standpoint: Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes, Rhode Island Reds, Brahmans, Leghorns, and Minorcas. This list is not large, yet it may be cut down still more, and to define exactly which are the very best business breeds for particular purposes, my experience leads me to suggest as follows: For broilers alone, I would take the White Wyandottes, for winter layers and broilers White or Barred Plymouth Rocks or Rhode Island Reds. As an all-around fowl the Rhode Island Reds have given me the most excellent satisfaction. For roasters and heavy market fowls the Brahmans are well adapted. For ordinary sized white eggs and plenty of them, choose the White Leghorns; if an extra large white egg is wanted the Black Minorcas are the fowls to keep. While some people will admit that this or that breed will lay more eggs than another, they will not select this variety simply because it does not just suit their fancy. What one may fancy is one thing, but what will pay the best in another, and in making a choice we should carefully consider the demand. It seems that certain sections of the country run to certain breeds, but the breed for excellence known from one end of the country to another is the Barred Plymouth Rock. I believe there is hardly a poultry keeper in this country, either for pleasure or profit, who does not at once recognize the sterling qualities of this most popular of all breeds. Their good qualities are so well known it is useless to name them. One of the very best qualities that any breed can have is hardiness, and in this they seldom fail. With a vigorous constitution, which is the first thing to consider, we may expect good growth, early maturity, good egg yield and a fine carcass; but without a strong constitution we can not depend upon any of these results. Health and prime condition always go together and both mean the best results obtainable in poultry.

Breed Straight.

One of the hardest things to convince a farmer of, is that it is to his interest to keep pure breeds, and this applies especially to poultry keeping. Just about the first thing a farmer does after he gets a few nice fowls of some particular variety is to go to work and cross them with some other breed or with a mongrel. They will

admit that pure blood is good, but think it is better in a cross. One of our neighboring farmers has a pen of pure bred Rhode Island Reds and the first of last May had sold twenty-five dollars worth of eggs for setting alone, and not an egg shipped away from this section. Now if this man had taken these birds and crossed them with some other breed, could he have sold eggs to this amount? Certainly not; no one wants to buy eggs to set from a cross and pay any thing above the market price. Eggs of this class are too plenty. Of course twenty-five dollars is not a large sum to realize for eggs sold in this way, yet it is a very good showing for eighteen or twenty fowls where no advertising is done outside of a local paper. It shows very plainly that there is a little money in pure bred fowls on the farm. To be sure first crosses of pure breeds often give a valuable bird for practical purposes, but I fail to see where they are any better than a fowl that is bred straight.

Poultry keepers in the city and villages, where they can raise but a limited number of fowls, are always looking for farm raised stock that is strictly pure, and if a nearby farmer has them he can find a ready sale at prices far above those paid in the market. How much more attractive it is to see a flock, all of one variety, roaming about the farm, than to see a mixed lot, all sizes and colors. The breeding of standard breeds is growing more in favor every year. It appears to me that it is the duty of every one interested in good poultry to use all the influence possible to get farmers to breeding a bona fide breed rather than a conglomeration, so as to make the breeding of thorough breeds universal.

Different Plans for Feeding for Eggs.

Nearly every one who keeps poultry has a little different way of feeding to get eggs. A man who breeds Brahmans quite extensively and is very successful in getting eggs, told me recently that he kept feed by his hens all the time, so they could go to the dish and eat whenever they wished. It has always been my experience that the best way to feed for eggs was to compel the hens to work for their grain, and especially with the heavy breeds. Mr. John G. Whitten, of Genoa, N. Y., has a way of feeding for eggs that is different from any thing I have yet seen. He fixes the amount to feed by the weight of the hens, and says the small, active, energetic hens, like the Leghorns, require more per pound to live (or laying) weight, than the larger less active breeds.

He gives as his reasons for this, the Leghorn lays quite as large an egg as the larger hens, and being more active, uses up a greater amount of energy. The laying weight he gives of the Leghorn, to be about three and one-half pounds, and on the larger breeds he claims that the laying weight should be figured one pound less than the show weight. Mr. Whitten

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ten gives a lengthy discussion on this subject and also his plan of making rations which is very interesting and useful to the poultry keeper. It is the best thing I have seen along the line of feeding for eggs, and with the market price of this product moving up close to forty cents per dozen, it is worth while to bend every effort to supply the hens with a kind of food and in such a way that will induce them to lay. I think particulars of this plan of feeding can be had by addressing as above. It is certainly worth a two-cent stamp.

I hear a good many complaints this winter of hens not laying well, but I find in most instances that it is due to lack of attention and care of the fowls early in the season—September and October. With early pullets and hens that have been well cared for it is not a very difficult matter to start them laying in October or November, at the latest, but if no special effort is made in this direction until cold weather sets in, then it is quite another matter, and the chances are they will lay but few eggs until near spring.

Hens vs. Incubators, Cause of Dead Chicks in the Shell.

It appears that there are many more theories than well established facts about incubators. We hear and read of all kinds of experiences and opinions about running an incubator, and there is never any lack of advice on the subject. During the past year I have noted that there are quite a few breeders who have returned to hens, as the most reliable way of hatching and brooding. Both ways have their advantages. I am quite in doubt if we have yet a man and incubator that can do as perfect hatching as a good hen. Nevertheless, from the fact that we can hatch so many eggs at once, with but little trouble, and at most any time of the year that we see fit, the incubator has come to stay and is a success. Some object strongly to the use of hens for hatching on account of their leaving their nests, breaking eggs, etc. If they are set in a haphazard kind of a way this is apt to be the case. But for the best results care must be taken in selecting a place for sitting hens. I have found that the most satisfactory plan is to have the nests placed in a partition between the laying room and hallway, and have them arranged like a drawer, so they can be taken out and turned around facing the hallway, or if one has an out building or stall where nests may be placed, then the hens can be moved from the regular laying room and set in there. The only objection to this plan is that some hens will not sit except on the nests where they have been laying. Where several hens are set at one time the eggs may be tested on the seventh to the tenth day, so as to have all of the thirteen or fifteen eggs fertile. In this way one or more hens may be broken up or reset. When the hens are all set in one place, or nearly so, I

find that a dozen or fourteen of them are no more trouble than a two hundred egg incubator, and some seasons we have averaged eleven chicks from thirteen eggs, which as a rule is better than we do with a machine. But when we come to want to get out early chicks then it is quite another thing. Some object to hatching with a hen on account of lice, but I don't consider this much of a drawback. Those who give their fowls little or no care will have lice on them, no matter how they are hatched or brooded. If the pests are allowed to be on the premises to any extent, they will very quickly get on the chickens after they leave the brooder, and I have known of them getting on the chicks before they left the brooder; in fact I have seen brooders that were alive with them.

I am often asked the question, what is the cause of chicks dying in the shell? It is rather difficult to draw conclusions as to the reason of this, because so many factors are to be taken into consideration, namely; temperature, moisture, airing and turning, also the strength of the germ; the latter, perhaps, is responsible for dead chicks in the shell in more hatches than any other one thing. It is claimed too that moisture is the cause of this trouble. But I have run machines in two successive hatches with the ventilators precisely the same, and as near as I could tell the eggs were dried down alike in both hatches, and all conditions were apparently the same, yet, in one hatch nearly every chick got out, while in the other, ten to fifteen per cent of the eggs had dead chicks in them. In this case it appears to me that it may be caused by weak germs, the result of poor breeding stock. This trouble occurs with both hens and incubators. We only think we know about these things, each one studying with different machines arrives at different conclusions. V. M. Couch.

Light Bahamas and Suburban Homes.

With the extension of electric railways, better train service on most railroads, building loan associations and co-operation in buying land and erecting homes, men of moderate means or with long business hours have the opportunity of owning a house of their own, where they will possess enough land to have a garden or raise chickens. Numbers of them are taking advantage of this opportunity and have not only fresh vegetables, but fresh eggs and poultry as well.

It will be seen that the selection of a kind of fowls best adapted to the requirements of these suburban homes is important. It does not cost any more for feed to keep good chickens than poor ones, and the advantages of beauty, utility and the saving of labor are all combined in a proper selection. Should the ordinary mongrel fowl be kept it will be found necessary to erect high fences to confine them, whereas there are varieties that can be

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The above is a reproduction of a most beautiful lot of Poultry. The original is an oil painting by a famous French artist, and has attracted much attention wherever exhibited. It is now owned by George H. Stahl of Quincy, Illinois. Mr. Stahl has made a limited number of views in natural colors, suitable for framing, size 10 1/2 x 14 inches, and if you will remit him six cents in postage to cover cost of packing and mailing, mentioning Vick's Family Magazine, he will send you a copy free of charge. He will also send you one of his large, handsomely illustrated catalogues, containing 14 colored views of the celebrated Excelsior Incubator and the famous Wooden Hen, together with a view showing the "Development of the Chick" from the first to the twenty-first day. Don't fail to write at once for the supply of views is limited.

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hatches 1728 chicks. One woman 2496. One man 2632. Many others do equally well with the **PERFECTED HATCHING SYSTEM**. Beats incubators. Booklet free. F. GRUNDY, Morrisville, Ill.

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kept in their yards by low fences, thus saving labor or expense. Mongrels seem to be more liable to disease and they also make a poor appearance, being all shapes, sizes and colors. There can be no revenue from the sale of eggs for hatching, at good prices, from such a flock, as is the case where pure bred fowls are kept, and a return of this kind desired. While the different varieties of Plymouth Rocks are splendid fowls for the farm, they require too much room and are too hard to keep in yards to do well in the suburbs. In the majority of suburban homes the room that can be given to the keeping of poultry is limited, and it will be found best to select a variety that will do well in small space. No fowls possess this qualification in a higher degree than Light Brahmas. They will thrive as well in yards as

with a few well bred Brahma and increase the number gradually, rather than to invest in a large number of poor, ill-shaped ones. To get the best results no more than eleven hens and one male should be kept in a yard. A large poultry house and yard can be readily divided by partitions and fences as it is not necessary to erect high ones. Brahma being heavy fowls care should be taken to have the roosts low and the nests near the ground, so that there will be no danger of their hurting themselves in jumping from the roosts or breaking the eggs in the nests.

A mistake that is quite frequently made is over-feeding. Too much food will cause Brahma to become fat and cease to lay. A mash composed of bran or meal and what is left from the table chopped fine should be fed



A PEN OF CHOICE WHITE BRAHMAS.

they would in free range, a four foot fence will confine them, they are beautiful in appearance, good layers (winter or summer), good sitters, make fine mothers and are very good eating. If properly cared for, they are docile and gentle in manner, not nervous and excitable as are Leghorns and Plymouth Rocks.

Brahmas from the time they were brought to this country from the banks of the Brahmapootra, river of Assam, from which they derived their name, have steadily grown in popularity, showing that their good qualities have forced their way gradually and steadily upon the poultry keeper.

They possess the qualification of being bred to a higher standard, should the owner desire to exhibit them in poultry shows, with less trouble than many other varieties. In the proper selection of a flock a man can use his judgment to good advantage so that the chickens raised will be fine enough to take prizes at exhibitions. It will be found advantageous to start a yard

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Plan of Coop for Hens and Chickens.

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TRAP NESTS

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raise more than one hundred chickens, and was not particular about getting them out very early, I would not invest in an incubator. But when we come to go into the business to a greater extent, an incubator will make quite a saving in time and care.

My plan for setting a hen is to have a coop with a run attached. The coop to be about two feet deep by two and half feet wide, and one and one-half feet high, slating roof, fastened by hinge in front, so as to raise up from back side, or it may be handily arranged with a small door on the side or back. Slats in front same as an ordinary hen coop, and in front of this coop I attach a run made of wire netting, small mesh so the little chicks can not get through. A small box may be placed in this coop for setting the hen, and an opening left in front of the coop so the hen can go out into the run as she likes. The hen not being allowed to go only so far from her nest, she will not be likely to leave the eggs long enough to injure them from cold.

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THE MOTHER'S MEETING.

(Continued from Page seven.)

fortune when the heart of the home, mother, is "too busy" to be cheerful, too busy to sing or smile. No substitute pleasure takes the place vacated by mother's smile or kiss.

Once I had a great blessing sent to accompany a great grief. (Did you ever observe there are roses always near the thorns?) And if I could say to her, "my helper," "your cheery laugh is as much soul-tonic as any tonic given for bodily distress, it has helped me every day"—why, she would laugh again—incredulously, however. Have you ever sung gently over your sewing and realized later that the tune had touched an embittered heart and brought healing tears? For, blessed gift, tears are healing. Their "weakness" is a saving grace and always as they flow they remove petty vices, spiteful fancies, and deepen a tender heart.

"No work is so important as to excuse a mother's neglect of her child."

Do any of you try my plan, I wonder, to calmly map out a week's most pressing duties and make a rude sketch for each day? Indeed, being a trifle "old-fashioned" I find pleasure in mapping out the entire New Year, and, while full many air castles fall, a lesson is learned from cause and effect.

When lazy days, or "thumb days," arise and the "blues" are all too near, I betake me to my antidotes—a huge pile of darning for stern moods, a mountain of flower magazines and catalogues for idle hours, and my proud collections of recipes, of cook books unnumbered. Here I sit wrapped in complacent inspirations which result in menus of astounding economy or delicious nicety—until again seized by the mood.

To "run in a rut" about food would end my appetite for aye. A veritable Columbus I discover new worlds to conquer though bounded by kitchen walls!

At Set of Sun.

If we sit down at set of sun
And count the things that we have done
And counting find
One self-denying act, one word
That eased the heart of him who heard,
One glance most kind
That felt like sunshine where it went,
Then we may count the day well spent.
Selected.

The Young Mother.

While considering the layette, which is fascinating to young mothers, let her be wise enough to also consider her own needs. The developing figure should be fittingly gowned and very little false shame will be roused if young mothers will adopt a properly made dress during fourth or even third month. To all who will write inclosing stamp, I shall be very glad to tell of several pretty methods

and to point out special virtues of some certain patterns. How keenly many sensitive women suffer from shame at this time; how, alas! some husbands fail to protect and soothe them in this new distress; how much of this can be relieved without resorting to wicked tight corsets, and no loss of fresh air—more than ever needed now—for the welfare of mother and child—these things I have seen and learned from varied experiences and the sad revelations of mothers.

And let every mother read some such work as Tokology (in which the diet list and care of children's illness are so excellent) or the book, "Mother and Babe," or one of those soul cheering books by Mary Wood Allen (doubtless most of you know her name), editor of American Mother, to which we often refer in this department. Good books, all, and not costly. But get one of these and adopt its sane advice in the first months of your waiting time. Do this, hesitating sister, for later you will be grateful. Imagine—for ten cents a booklet can be yours which is all and exactly what modern mothers need!

One point I must insist upon again and again. If the birth is to occur in severe weather, provide warmth for both babe and mother. A heavy grey woolen sack-gown to slip over night-

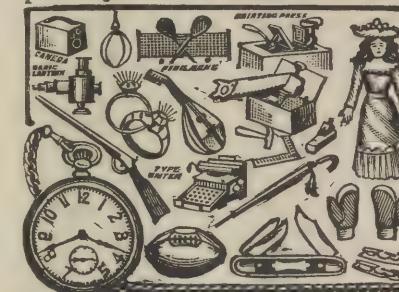
Field Note.

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to pay them handsomely. You can get one of these Billiard or Pool Tables, complete, finely finished, perfectly level bed, very quick elastic cushions, taking a ball twice around table (7 cushions) at one stroke, green baize cover and 16 perfect balls, chalk, pockets, triangle, cues, etc., **fully guaranteed**, for selling only 8 boxes of our wonderful Tablets at 25 cents per box. Don't send a cent; order to-day and we will send Tablets by mail. When sold send us the money, \$2.00, and we will promptly forward to you this Billiard or Pool Table and guarantee safe delivery. Remember, we are giving away these Tables to quickly introduce our Remedy and we offer

\$1000 REWARD

to any one that can prove that we do not give the Table with cues, balls, etc., exactly as we say, for selling only 8 boxes. Order to-day and be the first in your town to own one of these fine Tables.

Address, JAMES G. SHEPARD, Supt., Dept. 132, 25 Elm St., New Haven, Conn.

The Pool Table came last night and I am well pleased with it. ROBERT V. BURWELL, Plymouth, Conn.

I received your Pool Table all right.

I received the Pool Table all right two days after I wrote you. SAMUEL FRANKLAND, Beetwn, Wis.

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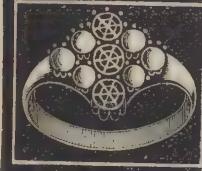
All four papers one year for \$1.00. There are others nearly as liberal on another page.

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DUBY'S OZARK HERBS restore gray, streaked or faded hair to its natural color, beauty and softness. Prevents the hair from falling out, promotes its growth, cures and prevents dandruff, and gives the hair a soft, glossy and healthy appearance. **IT WILL NOT STAIN THE SCALP.** is not sticky or dirty, contains no sugar of lead, nitrate silver, copperas, or poisons of any kind, but is composed of roots, herbs and flowers. It costs **ONLY 25 CENTS TO MAKE ONE PINT.**

It will produce the most luxuriant tresses from dry, coarse and wiry hair, and bring back the color it originally was before it turned gray. Full size package sent by mail for 25 cents. **ÖZARK HERB COMPANY, St. Louis, Mo.**

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Solid Gold finished, set with Rubies and Pearls, **FREE** for selling 4 of my large Art Pictures at the reduced price of 25 cents. All different. No charge to sell these pictures, they are landscape art productions, done in 10 to 17 colors, originals costing 200 to 500 dollars. The first four you meet will gladly take them at 25 cents to help you win the premium. The Ring guaranteed worth many times this small service, but want to introduce my pictures at once. **Send No Money in Advance.** I trust you and will send the pictures representing 4 different and beautiful scenes, all charges paid, immediately on hearing from you.

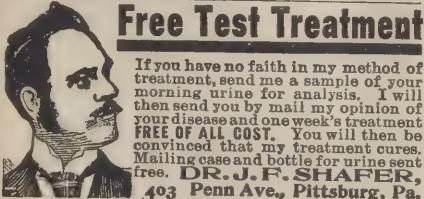
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Perfumery postpaid. When sold send us the One Dollar, and we will forward you the handsome watch. We trust you and will take back all you cannot sell. We propose to give away these watches simply to advertise our business. **Address, W. S. SIMPSON, NEW YORK CITY.**



Free Test Treatment
If you have no faith in my method of treatment, send me a sample of your morning urine for analysis. I will then send you by mail my opinion of your disease and one week's treatment **FREE OF ALL COST.** You will then be convinced that my treatment cures. Mailing case and bottle for urine sent free. **DR. J. F. SHAFER,** 403 Penn Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa.

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BILE-SOL-VENT is the best medicine in the world for Liver, Kidney, Heart, Stomach, and Blood Diseases. We convince every sufferer it will cure nine out of every ten cases, by sending a week's treatment absolutely free. **H. C. BELLE CO., 410 S. California Av., Chicago, Ill.**

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Something new in dish cloths. Always clean and sanitary. Elegant for wiping pans and wood work when through washing. Outwears all others. Take none but the genuine. For sale by **A. W. KAUFMAN & CO., Dept. D, Canton, Ohio, 10c.** **LIVE AGENTS WANTED.**

You Are a Chump to work for others. Be your own boss. Be independent. Start a mail order business at home. Make \$2,000 a year. Instructions and particulars free. Address **SOUCY BROS., Dept. A, 109 4th St., N. E., Minneapolis, Minn.**

GIRLS Here is your chance. Get an Elegant Opal Ring **Free.** No money required. Write today. **WHITTIER SUPPLY COMPANY, Dept. D, Hallowell, Me.**

WANTED Boys and Girls to work for me everywhere. Beautiful presents free. Address **JAMES B. MERVIN, Lock Box 166, Kalamazoo, Mich.**

CATARRH **Salviae Specific Company, 417 Mason St., San Francisco, Cal.** guarantees to cure in 3 days **Catarrh** caused by cold, tobacco or excessive use of cigarettes or refund your money. 25c silver. Mail order dealers.

WAKE UP. GET TERMS, 10 CENTS.

AGENTS make \$3 to \$5 daily selling my large line household necessities and exclusive, new inventions. Get my free catalogue today. **OLIVER J. CLARK, 171 Hastings Street, Chicago.**

AGENTS! \$3 for \$1, selling Crandall's corn cure, Cures every time. Great seller, 25 cents postpaid. **GEO. CRANDALL, Walton, N. Y.**

"EGYPTIAN BEAUTIFIER." makes the skin soft and velvety. Gives youthful tint. By mail 25c (silver). **OXYDENA COMPANY, Carrier 54, Buffalo, N. Y.**

FLASHLIGHTS on Human Nature, 240 pages 10c. **A. F. Emrich & Co., 1316 N. Mount St., Balto., Md.**

CARDS Ladies and Gentlemen, calling or business, Also Secret Society, any emblem. We give 100 engraver's style, in a genuine leather card case, with name, address and business for 75 cents. Correct size. **C. H. COFFIN & CO., 2932 Emerson Ave., So. Minneapolis, Minn.**

robe is one warm remembrance I have of the days when little one's midnight ills sent me, night lamp in hand, flying about the house. A ready made gown will answer and such are sold by firms before mentioned.

"Mammary abscess," words of painful meaning! Beware of cold feet, of sudden chills! The modern woman can enjoy luxury, at ten cents per pair, in downy bedsocks. I advise all to look up Vick's advertisers for these.

Keep this in mind in arranging diet or dress. If you dress baby in old-time styles be kind enough to furnish foot coverings and some "bathrobes," of thin wool or good cheese cloth wadded, tufted, feather stitched to taste longer than slips and warm. Nice to put over cotton night robes in damp or cold rooms to shield upper and usually uncovered parts of shoulders and chest, especially for those of croupy or bronchial tendency, or during such attacks.

Provide for clean bedding above all; provide abundance, and never omit the waterproof bedsheet since a soiled bed and chilled baby are things no refined mother tolerates, even though she endures other vexations patiently.

Swaddling clothes are downy, warm, dainty, cheap, washable. A mere amateur seamstress could put them together (less daintily of course) and any timid man would dare hold even a strong squirming babe thus garbed compactly. Laid down, there are no jars and extra fastidious people of late have babies under three months carried on pillows not on arms.

Dress a babe according to weather—and its health. If some one says "toughen it" be slow to follow such Spartans.

If.

If, when the old year glides away. A weary wraith in the snow and cold, We could begin on the New Year's day A clean new life and could drop the old— Old sins, old shames, old thrills of pain, And the myriad things God only knows— And into the sweet years, clear of stain, Could step with the freedom of full repose, What blessing untold would to us be given! Scarce in our hearts would be room for heaven!

Margaret Sangster.

Mothers as Nurses.

Sharp winds which chill the little ones exposed to them reap nightly harvests in earaches. Since the pain is intense no good mother neglects to treat the sufferers. And let all reflect what can result from neglected earaches. "Sunday hats," changed from week day hoods and toboggans, are vanities punished upon the innocent.

Let every mother keep homeopathic remedies on hand and study the manual accompanying them. It is the wisest plan to use the Specifics which are numbered, as the true Homeopathic remedies include Aconite and Spongis in liquid and an over dose is possible. By the use of specifics this cannot occur. No liquids can spill, and right combinations are easily arranged when two remedies are to be used as is often necessary. With a case of these the most isolated mother is safe

unless some marvellous accident occur. (To any who are interested will outline a brief experience of my own proving that freedom from doctor bills and anxieties is easily had).

And in earache, pour in carefully a little warm oil and keep in with a little cotton. Give regular dose, as directed on bottle, of Number 3, to soothe, and keep out of draughts. No better, quicker treatment exists.

"We should fill the house with the sweetest things If we had but a day; We should drink only at the purest springs On our upward way; We should love with a lifetime's love in an hour, If our hours were few; We should rest—not for dreams, but for fresher power, To be and to do."

A SPLENDID OFFER.

Made by a Well Known and Reliable Canadian Chemist.

After long years of study I have discovered an absolutely certain cure for Catarrh, Bronchitis and Lung Trouble which I am anxious to send free of charge to all that ask. The name of my remedy is **Catarrhozone.** It is a scientific treatment that is endorsed by the leading physicians and ministers of Canada. I guarantee my remedy to cure, and always refund the money to dissatisfied purchasers. In this way I have built up an enormous business. Catarrhozone cures without drugs and disagreeable medicine. It is Nature's cure—soothing, healing and pleasant to use. You simply inhale the medicated vapor of Catarrhozone through a Catarrhozone inhaler, and get cured quickly. Two months treatment costs only a dollar. It can be sent by mail and used right at home any time of the day or night. If you prefer a sample just let me know. I will send it gladly knowing that you will order the dollar outfit later. Remember, Catarrhozone is guaranteed. Send your order for Catarrhozone or request for a sample of Neil C. Polson, Mfg. Chemist (established 1877) Kingston, Ont., Canada. I pay the cost of mailing and deliver Catarrhozone duty free on receipt of price. Satisfaction guaranteed.

The Combination Oil Cure for Cancer

Has the endorsement of the highest medical authority in the world. It would seem strange indeed if persons afflicted with cancer and tumors, after knowing the facts, would resort to the dreaded knife and burning plaster, which have hitherto been attended with such fatal results. The fact that in the last eight years over one hundred doctors have put themselves under this mild treatment shows their confidence in the new method of treating those horrible diseases. Persons afflicted will do well to send for free book giving particulars and prices of Oils. Address Dr. D. M. BYE Co., Indianapolis, Ind.

ANY LADY suffering with female diseases who will send me the names and addresses of ten women who need treatment, I will send a 40-cent box of the famous **HOME TREATMENT** for women free. Address, **Mrs. Harriet T. Hartman, South Bend, Indiana.**

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HOME WORK, BOXING KALIO. Easy, pleasant, profitable. Agents wanted. More than double your money. 10c for sample box and information. M. Webster Co., No. 6 B. H. Ave., Mattapan, Mass.

FOR SALE a copy of the "Beekwith Book" with family arms; genealogy from the tenth century; out of print, rare. Address **S. W., 143 Main Street, Palmyra, N. Y.**

FREE We pay the freight. This elegant, gantlet-size Reed Rocker will be given free to any lady who will take orders for 18 cans of our Columbia Baking Powder from her friends or neighbors. To every one who gives you an order (one per box, No. 70) for a can, you are to receive a free coloring a beautiful China Plate Set 7 pieces, all Gold trimmed, with floral decorations. No trouble to take orders this way. No money required in advance. Simply send your name & address & we will send you our catalogues, order blank, etc. We will allow you time to determine the Baking Powder & collect the money before paying you. You run no risk, as we pay the freight, and will trust you with the Baking Powder, Rocker, etc. **KING MFG. CO., 739 King Building, St. Louis, Mo.**

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA Recommends The HOWE CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL OF MUSIC ADDRESS DEPT. 12 COLUMBUS, OHIO SPECIAL TRIAL OFFER.

For \$1.00, your only expense (and this will not cover our cost of material and postage), we will send 10 trial lessons for any instrument. In Harmony 4 trial lessons for \$1.00. State present knowledge of music, if any, when writing. We teach Singing, Harmony, and ALL INSTRUMENTS by correspondence as much as the best private tutor.

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YOU CAN GET a handsome Gold Laid, Hunting Case, stem wind and stem set **WATCH**, together with a chain and charm, also a beautiful Venezuelan Diamond Ring, perfect in cut and lustre, for selling our remedy. Our watches are elegantly engraved, equal in appearance to a \$25. watch and fully guaranteed for years. Our 90-day money back is apart from the above. Send us your name and address, (no money) we send you 4 boxes of Mr. Thompson's Colon Tablets, sell them at 25c. per box, send us the \$1 received and we will send you a handsome Watch-Chain and Charm, also Gold Plated Venezuelan Diamond Ring. Greatest offer ever; selling only \$1.00 worth of goods. **Golden Remedy Co., Dept. V.M. Newark, N.J.**

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paid by the Mexican Plantation Association, 1602 Title and Trust Building, Chicago, Ill. Oldest of its kind in Mexico. **ESTABLISHED 1897.** Has 6,000 shares, or acres, planted to permanent crops, rubber, coffee and vanilla. The Association's contract is like an insurance policy—in case of death the money is refunded. 38 deaths have occurred since 1897. These shares will now be resold. For full particulars, address as above.

Ladies Send for FREE sample of exquisite Sachet Powder and valuable confidential offer. Send simply name and address to **F. E. I. Benjamin, Audover, Ohio.**

WE PAY CASH for Newspaper Clippings Names and addresses. Write enclosing stamp for particulars. The E. M. SMITH CO., 114 E. 23d St., N. Y.

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DON'T USE DRUGS **GUARANTEED CURE.** Our method has cured the most aggravated cases. Will cure yours or money cheerfully refunded. Only \$1. **ALEXANDER DAYTON CO., Granite Bldg., Rochester, N. Y.**

Are You Nervous? If you are rejuvenators will surely cure you. No matter what the cause of your weakness, we guarantee it. Sample treatment sent free (sealed).

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Restores Gray, Streaked, or Bleached Hair, or Beard. Instantaneously. Gives any shade from Light Brown to Black. Does not wash or rub off. Contains no poisons, and is not sticky nor greasy.

To convince you we will send you a Trial size for 10c postpaid, large size (eight times as much) 50 cents.

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Write today for our Special Bargain Price List, illustrating our fine Morris Chairs, and Easy Library Chairs. Our goods have features possessed by no other Morris Chair. We have handsome couches too. Send for Circulars today.

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go hand in hand. The celebrated Golden Rule Remedies and Toilet Specialties will help you to gain both. Send five one-cent stamps and the names and addresses of five married ladies and receive a package of exquisite Sachet Perfume and our liberal offer to new customers.

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DYSPEPSIA completely and permanently cured. No stomach dosing. Write today for free booklet and let us tell you more about it. The Rational Remedy Co., Dept. G, 885 Broadway, N. Y.

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Our 200-page book "The Origin and Treatment of Stammering" sent free to any address. Enclose 6 cents to pay postage.

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PORTRAIT AGENTS. Entirely new finish in portraits. Sample free; very fine and cheap. KURZ ART CO., 969 N Clark Street, Chicago, Ill.

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STORY WRITING! Correct your own manuscripts. Send stamp for prospectus of "Leicester's Stepping Stones to Authorship." It tells how to write a story from title to climax. Story writing taught by mail. LONDON LITERARY ASSOCIATION, Jamaica, N. Y.

BE A PROOFREADER Work refined, private and educational. Women receive same salaries as men, \$15 to \$35 a week. Proofreaders always in demand. Send for free booklet "Practical Proofreading;" tells how. National Proofreaders' Assn., The Baldwin, No. 15, Indiana, Ind.

Did You Ever stop to think that a neat catchy engraved Letter Head Cut would help your business. We are full of bright crisp designs. Send matter for pencil sketch and lowest price. Capitol Engraving Co., 817 G St., Wash., D. C.

MONEY Makers. A book of money getting ideas, 10c, and free inkless pen. S. T. Wightman's Mfg. Co., 1, Port Clinton, Ohio.

NO MORE BLUE MONDAYS! THE TEMPEST WASHER

Saves time & clothes, backache & sore fingers. Does away with rubbing and boiling. Washes everything—Woolens, Flannels, Linens, Colored Goods, &c. Washes a dozen or more pieces at once. Easy to work. Can't get out of order. Lightest, most inexpensive Washer made. Mrs. C. Meyer, 56 Walton Place, Chicago, writes: "It is a wonder for its simplicity. It washes very clean, and in less than half usual time." Price reduced to \$1.50. Send to-day. THE TEMPEST CO., 702 Reaper Blk, CHICAGO.

TO WOMEN WHO DREAD MOTHERHOOD!

Information How They May Give Birth to Happy, Healthy Children "Absolutely Without Pain—Sent Free."

No woman need any longer dread the pains of child-birth; or remain childless. Dr. J. H. Dye has devoted his life to relieving the sorrows of women. He has proved that all pain at child birth may be entirely banished, and he will gladly tell you how it may be done absolutely free of charge. Send your name and address to J. H. Dye, Box 137, Buffalo, N. Y., and he will send you, postpaid, his wonderful book which tells how to give birth to happy, healthy children, absolutely without pain; also how to cure sterility. Do not delay but write today.

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Send Now! 10 cents for 100 newspapers and magazines, all different. A whole year's reading for a dime, to pay postage. DO IT NOW. Morgan's Subscription Agency, Woodsville, N.H.

BOOK NOTICES.

A Journey to Nature, by J. P. Mowbray, tells the story of a Wall Street man whose doctor orders him to give up work and go to the country to live. We suspect that not many patients would be willing to accept such advice, and certainly not all would be able to obtain so much enjoyment in living up to the prescription, or have the ability to relate their experience in such an entertaining way. If more doctors would give similar prescriptions, we are sure that many exhausted with the fever of life would be restored to health, and the number of nature-lovers increased. Doubleday, Page & Co., New York. Price \$1.50 net.

The Report of the Proceedings of the American Park and Outdoor Art Association, held at Boston, August, 1902, comes to our table in neat and attractive form. The purpose of the society is to promote the conservation of natural scenery, the acquirement and improvement of land for public parks and reservations, and the advancement of all outdoor art having to do with the designing and fitting of grounds for public and private use and enjoyment. The rapidly increasing membership attests the fact that the society is succeeding in its endeavors to create a greater interest in the adornment of municipal and private grounds and kindred subjects. Applications for membership in the society should be made to the Secretary, Charles Mulford Robinson, Rochester, N. Y.

Among many valuable articles in the Eighteenth Annual Report of the Bureau of Animal Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture for the year 1901, an elaborate one on "American Breeds of Fowls," by T. F. McGrew, is of great interest to all poultry keepers. Fine illustrations in colors are given of all the prominent breeds of fowls.

The Secretary of Agriculture concludes his report for 1902 with some interesting figures illustrative of the magnitude of the agricultural industry. In 1900 the fixed capital of agriculture was about twenty billions of dollars, or four times the amount invested in manufactures. According to the returns of the last census about forty millions of people, or more than half of the total population in 1900, resided on farms. The most valuable crop was Indian corn, valued at \$828,000,000; wheat returned \$370,000,000; oats \$217,000,000; the products of the dairy gave \$472,000,000, while poultry and eggs returned over \$281,000,000.

Ginseng. By M. G. Kaims. This is a new edition, revised enlarged, and brought down to date, giving a short account of the history and botany of the plant with directions for its cultivation and harvesting, and reliable figures as to its market value. To anyone intending to begin the cultivation of Ginseng this book will be of great value. Orange Judd Company, New York. Price 50 cents, postpaid.

How to Attract the Birds by Neltje Blanchan, a most interesting and instructive volume for those interested in bird study. Doubleday, Page & Co., New York. Price \$1.25.

American Animals by Witmer Stone and William E. Cram, a superb book which anyone should be proud to own. The illustrations are very fine and represent every animal which is a native of North America. Doubleday, Page & Co., New York. Price \$3.50.

The Gentleman from Everywhere, by James Henry Foss, is an interesting story in the shape of an autobiography. It gives one a good idea of life in Florida, where the author has spent much time, and treats of such subjects as religion, politics, education, socialism, etc., in a straightforward honest way. Published by the author at 18 Clarmont Park, Boston. 320 pages, postpaid \$1.50.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

The Munson Nurseries, Denison, Texas. Catalogue for Spring, 1903, Green's Nursery Co., Rochester, N. Y.

Vick's Garden and Floral Guide, 1903, James Vick's Sons, Rochester, N. Y.

Burpee's Farm Annual, 1903, W. Atlee Burpee & Co., Philadelphia, Pa.

The Great Northern Seed Co., Rockford, Ill.

Landreth's Seed Catalogue, 1903, D. Landreth & Sons, Philadelphia, Pa.

Cole's Garden Annual, Cole's Seed Store, Pella, Iowa.

The Storrs & Harrison Co., Painesville, Ohio.

Seed Catalogue 1903, L. L. Olds, Clinton, Iowa.

Free Descriptive Catalogue, Spring of 1903,

Allen L. Wood, Rochester, N. Y.

Catalogue of Strawberry Plants and Gladiolus Bulbs, M. Crawford Co., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio.

The Rochester Nursery Co., Rochester, N. Y.

The Deming Co., (Spray Pumps and Nozzles,) Salem, Ohio.

New Floral Guide, 1903, The Conard & Jones Co., West Grove, Pa.

BRIGHT EYED CIRCLE.

(Concluded from page fourteen)

so there now! She said she didn't care; they had six cats already at her place.

Grandma called us to luncheon then. We had a little table in the honeysuckle corner of the porch and the dolls sat up at the side places. Seems to me grandma made a great fuss over Florie. She said: "You look more like your father every day, my dear, and he was a man whom everyone loved and respected." Florie got awful red and she looked so queer I just laughed. How did I know that would hurt her feelings? Then she looked as if she was going to cry, and grandma frowned and shook her head at me. Grandma helped Florie to everything before me, and she took the biggest piece of cake—she is smaller than I am, too—but I got the thickest icing and some on the side where it had run over, so she needn't be so greedy!

After lunch we took turns swinging. She gave me five more pushes because I pushed so much harder and higher—at least she said: "All right," when I planned it so. She was real nice for a while, but afterwards, when we were playing house, she wanted every single thing that I wanted, until I just told her my opinion of selfish people, and she said: "Take your old things and play by yourself then—so there!" and ran home crying mad! Just think!

Grandma called me as I went upstairs and asked where Florie was. I told her all about it and when I got through telling her, just as plain as I've been telling you, I said right out: "She's a selfish, conceited, jealous, bad-tempered girl." Would you believe it—grandma is really dull at times—she looked at me over her "specs" and said:

"Who do you mean?"

One of the most interesting and startling pieces of medical literature we have ever seen is "The Nerve Force Journal" published by Mr. and Mrs. Geo. A. Corwin, 721 Mt. Morris Bank Bldg., New York. They will gladly send a copy free to any reader of Vick's who is sick or has sick friends.

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See our tempting offers on another page.

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is the product of skilled hand labor in the largest tin mills of the world. It has a very heavy coat of pure tin and new lead—never leaks. Ask your dealer or write to W. C. CRONEMEYER, Art., Carnegie Bldg., Pittsburgh, for illustrated book on roofing. American Tin Plate Co., New York.

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LADIES to solicit and demonstrate SOAP. Liberal salary. Pleasant work. Sample and particulars free. E. R. CO., Box 236, Canton, Ohio.

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For schools and colleges. New plan. Teachers Agency Box 223, Hancock, Maryland.

TEMPTATIONS OF THE STAGE. A book of fascinating interest. Nothing left untold. The truth. A revelation. Illustrated. Postpaid for 25c, with catalog of agents' fine household specialties, novelties, books etc. Detroit Specialty Co., 450 Tremont Ave., Detroit, Mich.

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Wanted everywhere Men to distribute advertising matter, tack signs, collect, etc.; no peddling or canvassing; previous experience unnecessary. Address, National Advertising Co., No. 4 Oakland Bank Building, Chicago.

ANYONE can clear \$15 weekly. No capital needed. No canvassing or peddling. New, best, most honorable, genteel home opportunity ever offered. Particulars for stamp. California Pub. & Art Co., Station B, (V 12) Oakland, California.

Gold Stocks Free! Do You Want Them? One of the houses of Denver has hit upon a plan to build up a national circulation for its big illustrated weekly which is taking like wildfire.

Here it is: To each person sending us \$1 for a yearly trial subscription to our great weekly family mining paper [founded 1893] we will send a book of 5 shares in a very promising CRIPPLE CREEK gold mining company, incorporated, full paid and non-assessable. Clubs of 5 or more \$30 each, including 5 shares each. Stamps taken, or remit by express, P. O. order or reg. letter.

Cripple Creek is the most wonderful gold camp in the world. It is now producing \$20,000 yearly.

The mining company above described owns good property at Cripple Creek and may strike it rich any day. Our paper will keep you fully posted. This generous offer is limited—send your subscription at once. Shares together with prospectus telling all about the company will be sent by return mail. Enclose dollar bill in your letter. Address GLOBE PUBLISHING CO., Denver, Colorado.

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50 for 30c. Equal to copper plate engraving. Cheap and Best. Satisfaction guaranteed. Samples free. Standard Printing & Engraving Co., Sidney, N. Y.

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Rub the rubber back and forth on the glove and it will instantly remove all dirt or discoloring. This is the quickest and best way to clean kid gloves and it will not injure the finest material made. Send for this magic rubber today. Price 25 cents.

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Just write us that you would like to be cured of Rheumatism and we will mail you promptly a free trial treatment of our Seven Root Rheumatic Cure which will prove that we have the only real Rheumatic Cure ever offered. Effect permanent and immediate. Try it free; send no money, simply your name and address.

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Are your kidneys healthy. Most people who have kidney disease blame the trouble to something entirely different. They wrongly trace symptoms to some other cause. Before they realize it, they have a full grown case of Diabetes or Bright's Disease, which means unbearable suffering and certain death. My Magic Kidney Pad is worn over the kidneys, and its medical virtue is absorbed by the skin, conveying it directly to the diseased kidneys. Relief from pain and a complete cure invariably follows. It never fails. I know this so well and I have such unbounded faith in its powers that I will send one of my complete Magic Kidney Pads

postpaid to anyone on 5 days' trial absolutely free. Nothing is so good for Kidney Disease, Neuralgia, Sciatica, Rheumatism, Lumbago, and all internal pains. Try it at my expense. Send no money until you have been helped. Write now before you forget it. My booklet tells all. Sent Free. Address,

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MY TREASURE.

[Continued from page nine.]

far more becoming to her." Whether he really had a curiosity to see my treasure, or whether it was purely accidental, I know not; but one Monday he appeared with his sister Edith. I was, as usual, lying on my couch near the fire—it was April, and chilly enough still,—and when Philip and Edith came up to my end of the room, I did not for some time remark that Mary had left her post at the little tea-table and was nowhere to be seen. But when I wanted tea for Edith, I missed the tea-maker. Hardly had I noticed her absence when she came back. I perceived that she had gone for a thick knitted shawl, in which she had wrapped herself up as if very cold. And indeed she looked chilled and pale; moreover, she had put on the gray glasses. Edith turned and whispered to me: "Philip will have a laugh at me; for I told him that Miss Smith was very good looking, and today she is simply a fright. She must be getting a cold, I think."

She went to the tea-table, stood talking a little to Mary, and then came back.

"Yes, indeed,—a sudden chill. The poor soul is shivering like a leaf, and cannot speak above her breath."

"It is really enough to frighten one," I replied; "and so sudden, too,—but I will see to her presently. Take no more notice of it now, Edith, for she is very shy—it would only make her worse to make any fuss now."

Then I turned to talk to Philip, who was standing towering over me, with his eyes fixed upon Miss Smith in a puzzled stare which I knew would reduce her to misery if she became aware of it. It was so unlike Philip, too, to stare so.

"Sit down, Philip," said I. "I really cannot make you hear me up there! Are you wondering where the good looks have hid themselves?"

He sat down, but seemed so stupid and unlike himself that for a moment I felt vaguely uneasy. Presently Edith took him away, stopping at the tea-table to introduce him to Mary. Both bowed—Mary stiffly, like a person with a bad headache, and Philip slowly, like a person in a dream. Then they were gone, and soon Mary and I were left alone together. She looked very ill, and trembled without ceasing; but she got better after a while, and seemed quite herself the next day.

To my great amazement Philip appeared next Monday—this time without Edith. He sat beside me for a few minutes, very silent and very absent. It seemed to me as if the numbers present depressed him; and yet if this were the case, why did he come? And once he would have been the life and soul of the party. Far otherwise now. A complete wet blanket: And, fond as I am of him, I was glad when he went away—which he did somewhat suddenly, forgetting

to take leave of me. He walked up to Mary and held out his hand, saying—

"Good evening, Miss Smith."

Mary did not seem to see his hand. She bowed, and said "Good evening," in a low voice. I did wish her spectacles were in the fire! It was provoking to have talked to a man of a person's beauty, and for her to be all gray spectacles whenever he looked at her. However, he departed.

That evening Mary was singing for me, I lying lazily enjoying myself. I never heard the door open, but I saw her start slightly, and then her voice broke down and she stopped singing. There was a looking-glass over the piano, and thus I saw that she hurriedly put on those abominable spectacles; and then I became aware that there was a man in the room.

"Who is that?" I cried. "Why, Philip! you at this hour! I thought you were to dine at Lord M.—'s tonight."

"I forgot," he said; and then he went up to the piano, and said something. I could not catch the words. Mary rose, faced round, and said icily—

"What did you say, sir?"

Her manner surprised me; it was out of the question that Philip could have said anything that ought to have offended her, and yet her manner was distinctly defensive.

"You are—you know that name?" he said.

"I do not understand you in the least," she answered, coldly.

"Frances," he said, appealingly, "you know this name?"

"What name, Philip?" I asked, and wondered if he were suddenly going mad!

"Una Varian; surely you know this name?"

"Una—no, Philip, I don't. Varian sounds familiar, though I cannot remember why. Philip, what on earth do you mean? You are making us both quite nervous."

"You don't know the name!" he said; and as to getting him to explain

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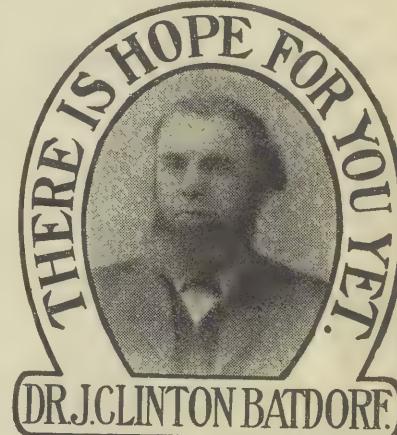
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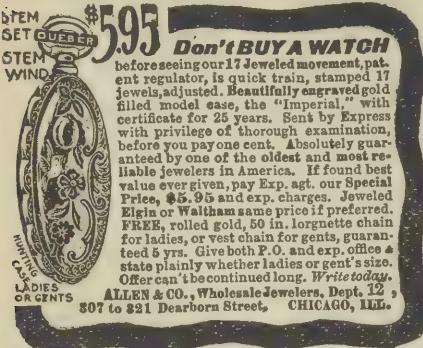
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or even to understand that I was getting thoroughly frightened, I might as well have tried to move the heart of a wooden post!—he simply paid no attention to a word I said

"This is very strange!" he muttered. "I must think—I must—"

He sank into an easy-chair, and covered his face with his hands. I beckoned Mary over to me.

"Is he ill? What on earth is it, Mary?" I whispered. To my utter astonishment, her answer was—

"Perhaps I had better leave you?"

"Oh no, for mercy's sake! I am really frightened, Mary."

"Don't let her go," said Philip, suddenly, "and you need not be frightened, Frances. I have made a mistake—that's all; you forgive me, Miss Smith? I am very sorry, and if you will allow me I will explain my error."

"Oh no," she said, hurriedly; "there is no need for that. I will think no more about it."

"But yet, allow me to explain," he said, in rather a decided tone.

"And, Frances, I am going to tell you the story I once promised to tell you. The time has come for it."

"I had better leave you," said Mary, gathering up her work, over which she had seemed very busy for the last few minutes. I cried in great haste—

"Oh no, Mary—please stay!" and Philip said—

"My story and my explanation are one and the same. I want you to hear it, Miss Smith."

"I—have nothing to do with it," she said.

"Mary, you really must stay," said I. Mary looked at me, sat down, and took up her knitting—at which she began to work as if for her daily bread.

CHAPTER V.

UNA VARIAN.

I may as well confess that I was beside myself with fright. Philip had been decidedly odd the last two or three times that I had seen him, but this evening he was more than odd; and what might not happen if the poor dear fellow were getting some awful fever—delirious—violent—and not a man, no, not so much as a page-boy in the house! The only thing I could do, I did; and I felt that it was not much. I contrived to possess myself of a little bell, which I sometimes used for summoning Mary if she were in the other room. I knew that the sound did not ordinarily reach the kitchen; but then I determined to ring in no ordinary manner if it became necessary to ring at all; and so the bell was a very little comfort to me. Had I been less absurdly frightened I should have perceived that Mary, though agitated, was not frightened, whereas usually I am far less timid than she. Philip's de-

meanor, and even his first words when at last he broke the silence, were not such as to set my mind at rest. First he pushed his chair back, so that his face was in shadow; then he covered his eyes with his hand, so that I could not tell whether he was looking at me or at Mary, and although he addressed himself to me, I had an odd conviction that what he said was meant for her. As for Mary, she knitted away with a kind of fell energy—a jerky, restless energy most unnatural to behold.

"Frances, do you remember," began Philip, abruptly, "how fond I was of driving tandem long ago?"

"Oh yes," said I, with painful alacrity, "I do indeed." I would not have let him see how terrified I was

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for all the world. I wished that Mary would lay aside her knitting, the click, click of her pins was maddening.

"Well, I was driving one day, when I met with an adventure which has colored my whole life. I had taken you, Frances, to Richmond, and brought you back to my father's house, where you were staying. I was driving through Q— Square when I fell in with a crowd of carriages and cabs—there was evidently a stoppage of some kind. I drew up near a crossing, on which I soon perceived the cause of the impediment—a beautiful white Persian kitten, evidently too much terrified to get out of the way. In trying to avoid the little creature, the coachman of a very nice turn-out had contrived to lock his carriage-wheels with those of a hansom cab. The horses were restive, and the occupants of the carriage frightened. No vehicle could pass; and I was wondering how it would end, when the gate of the square opened and a girl came out. She ran forward, picked up the kitten, and retreated a few steps. Her eyes were fixed upon the two vehicles, and a considerable crowd had gathered by this time round them. The girl stood just in front of my leader, but plainly she did not know this, for she never glanced round; her whole mind was fixed upon what was going on in the roadway. You remember Brian Dhu, the black horse I drove leader? He

kept stretching out his nose and nearly touching her hat, and I was really afraid that she would get a fright if he succeeded in reaching her, though he wouldn't have hurt her, poor old fellow, for the world. The girl had such a beautiful figure; she looked so unconscious and so pretty as she stood waiting for her path to be cleared, that I got quite a longing to see the face belonging to that figure. Well, at last the carriages were free and the crowd began to disperse. In a moment more she would have passed on, when Brian Dhu—I was greatly obliged to him—suddenly saw the kitten and gave a loud snort. She turned her head, saw me and my horses, looked startled for a moment, and then smiled, becoming aware, I think, that she had kept me standing there for some time. She said, 'I beg your pardon,' walked on, and knocked at the door of a house opposite."

By this time I was getting interested, and, though I still fondly cherished my bell, I began to get over my nervousness. I said—

"And was she pretty, Philip?"
"No," said he half indignantly, "she was—lovely!"

He was silent for a few minutes.

"I did not see her again for some time, but I found out who she was. She was—the only child of a great merchant, one of the merchant-princes of that day, Redvars Varian."

"What?" I cried; "no wonder I thought I knew the name. Oh, my

poor Philip! I can guess the rest."

"No, no! let me tell it. I succeeded in getting an invitation to a party where Mr. Varian and his daughter were expected. I was introduced to her, and to her father. You know, Fan, I was rather a pleasant fellow in those days."

"Truly you were, Phil!"

"And Mr. Varian took a fancy to me, and I to him. Yes, I did. I was in love with her, but I truly and honestly liked him; and so did all that knew him. And he was very, very kind to me. Yes, I knew all about him, Frances; you need not say a word—don't say a word. But I can never forget his kindness, never."

"Well—go on, Philip; did you—did she—!"

"Oh, we were very happy," he said, quietly. "My Una! my lovely, sweet bright Una! We were very happy, she and I. I told Mr. Varian that my father might object, but he did not seem to fear that the objection would last when he knew Una. Still I thought I would say nothing till I got the appointment I was expecting; for, if my father's consent was a rather unwilling one, I felt it would be more pleasant for Una to leave England for a time as soon as we were married. It was during this time that I was once very near confiding in you. Do you remember, Frances?"

[Concluded in March issue.]

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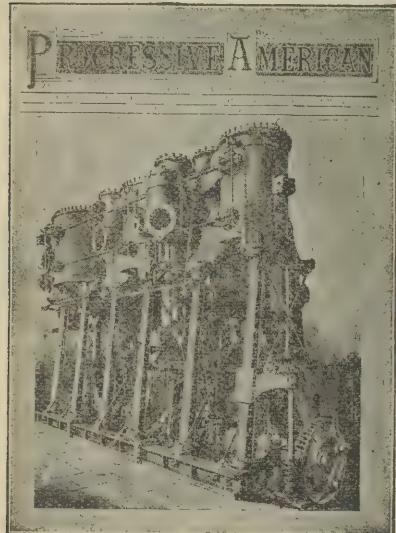
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The quantity of material required for the medium size is, for waist 3 3/4 yards 21 inches wide, 3 1/2 yards 27 inches wide or 2 yards 44 inches wide, with 3 1/2 yards of chiffon; for skirt 10 1/4 yards 21 inches wide, 8 yards 27 inches wide or 5 1/4 yards 44 inches wide.

The blouse pattern 4112 is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inch bust measure.

The skirt pattern 3890 is cut in sizes for a 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inch waist measure.



Fancy Waist 4119. Five Gored Skirt 4124.



Fancy Waist 4119. Five Gored Skirt 4124.

those of wool. The circular flounce is a feature and provides graceful flare about the feet.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is 10 1/4 yards 27 inches wide, 10 yards 32 inches wide or 6 1/2 yards 44 inches wide.

The pattern 4059 is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inch bust measure.



Woman's Wrapper 4059.

A Tasteful Afternoon Gown.

See cuts 4119-4124.

A fashionable and tasteful gown for afternoon wear shown in reseda canvas with yoke of tucked white mouseline, trimming of cream lace and black velvet ribbon.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is, for waist 3 1/4 yards 21 inches wide, 2 3/4 yards 27 inches wide or 1 3/4 yards 44 inches wide, with 3 1/4 yards of tucking; for skirt 10 1/4 yards 21 inches wide, 8 3/4 yards 27 inches wide or 5 3/4 yards 44 inches wide.

The waist pattern 4119 is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inch bust measure.

The skirt pattern 4124 is cut in sizes for a 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inch waist measure.

An Attractive Morning Gown.

See cut 4059.

A tasteful, stylish, home gown of reseda challic dotted with white and trimmed with cream lace. The design is a simple one and suits washable fabrics as well as

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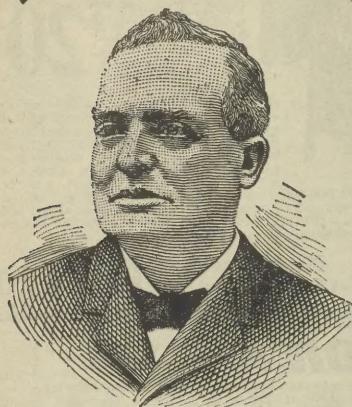
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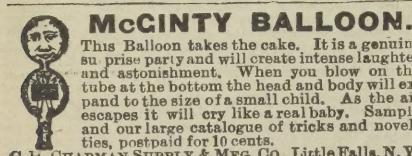
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TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS.

(Continued from page four.)

deep. Dead leaves should be removed, also dead branches, if any. Bulbs that have blossomed should not be left in the window garden after the foliage begins to die; remove them elsewhere. Cleanliness and tidiness should be maintained, for really fine and satisfactory plants cannot flourish in an unclean, untidy room. I presume that you have all heard the statement that a dusty, cobwebby window garden is a sure sign that a dusty, cobwebby person is somewhere around; and, while this may not always be true, the fact still remains that a really conscientious flower grower will not allow her plants to suffer from any cause any longer than she can get around to relieve them.

SEASONABLE SUGGESTIONS

The sun is mounting higher in the heavens and increasing in power. Do not place your palms and similar plants so that it can shine directly upon them long at a time. If you have ever noticed ugly, brown blotches on the leaves of certain plants, it is because the sun shone upon them while they were wet and quickly dried up the moisture. The remedy is to keep them out of the sunshine after you have showered them. Palms do not require a very bright light, neither do they like complete shade; and, therefore, they should not be kept in a darkened hallway or parlor for weeks at a time.

As soon as your plants begin to bend toward the light too much, gradually turn them around so that they will not grow one sided, for such plants are not pleasing. It is generally safe to turn plants at any time, except when they are unfolding their flowers, and even then they will not blast if turned gradually. It is not advisable to change double geraniums, etc., from one place to another that is diametrically opposite in light, temperature and everything else.

If the soil in which your plants are growing, becomes full of angle worms, you can rout them by dissolving a lump of fresh lime as large as a teacup in a gallon or more of water, and when settled pour the liquid on the soil. A thorough application will need to be made, and it may be necessary to set the plant in a basin of lime water until the worms come to the

top, when they may be removed. Angle worms may do no positive harm to a plant, but it is not necessary that they should work in the soil.

Red spiders, which flourish in a hot, dry atmosphere, will expire if treated to an application of tobacco, either in form of powder, smoke or liquid. The latter is perhaps most effective. If you cannot procure tobacco insecticides from your florist, steep some tobacco leaves in some water, and syringe the liquid against the plants. Then keep them cooler and the air more moist. Palms and fuchsias are not the only plants infected with scale and mealy bugs. Examine your ferns frequently, and also the begonias. Scales are flat, round and light brown, and may be removed with any small, blunt instrument, like an old pen. Mealy bugs are white, like cotton. After removing as many as possible, shower thoroughly with an application of your favorite remedy.

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TOO FAT



This world is a difficult world, indeed, And people are hard to suit, And the man who plays on the violin Is a bore to the man with a flute.

And I myself have often thought How very much better 'twould be, If every one of the folks I know Would only agree with me.

But since they will not, then the very best way To make this world look bright Is never to mind what people say, But do what you think is right.

Selected.

The King's Kitchen.

The king's kitchen hides something like \$10,000 in copper and iron utensils and \$9,000,000 in plate. Among the former should be mentioned the enormous meat screen of solid oak lined with metal, which is nearly 300 years old, and bears the imperial badge of the house of Tudor—the portcullis and arms. Connoisseurs have sighed in vain for this meat screen, for its worth is inestimable. Then there are 4,000 knives, 3,000 forks and as many spoons used for cooking and kitchen purposes, which do not include the 8,000 forks and spoons of massive silver for use at the royal table. There are 800 pots and pans, mostly of copper, and five scurcers are solely employed to keep them brightly burnished.

Not far away are the plate rooms, two in number, which, although they measure only thirteen by sixteen feet, hold treasures eighteen tons of sovereigns would not buy.

The most valuable item in the store-room, says London Tit-Bits, is, of course, the famous service, consisting of plates, dishes, tureens, epergnes and candelabra, all of solid gold, which were made by Roundelle & Bridges for George IV. This service is only used on state occasions. Equally famous is the emperor's service of silver gilt, the worth of which may be vaguely gleaned from the fact that each plate weighs a stone and the epergnes two hundredweight apiece.

There is one gold dish, of surpassing loveliness, which is supposed to have been used by Alexander the Great before the battle of Hydaspes, and for upward of six centuries it has reposed at Windsor. Another much valued piece of plate is the silver gilt flagon, three feet in height, which was recovered from an Armada wreck three centuries ago, while there is also a table of solid silver, the surface of which measures nine feet square and is engraved with the four emblems of Great Britain.

But perhaps one of the most cherished relics in the king's pantry is the golden eagle, which was taken from the Tippo Sahib's throne. It is of solid gold throughout, the feather tips being pointed with priceless diamonds and rubies, while the beak is carved from a flawless emerald.—Detroit Free Press.

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And I myself have often thought How very much better 'twould be, If every one of the folks I know Would only agree with me.

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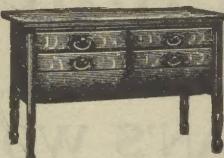
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